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Team Medical Dragon

Someone says the shake
of"Ikyoku-Kouzasei"
caused serious shortage of doctors.
Then, should we go back the times
when many patients were betrayed?
Getting the past back
cannot solve the present problems.
Making future is the only way
to work out a solution.

BIG COMIC SUPERIOR

Nogizaka Taro
乃木坂太郎

19

Nagai Akira
[原案]永井 明

Yoshinuma Mie
[医療監修]吉沼美恵

BIG COMICS

医龍

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小学館
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医龍 19

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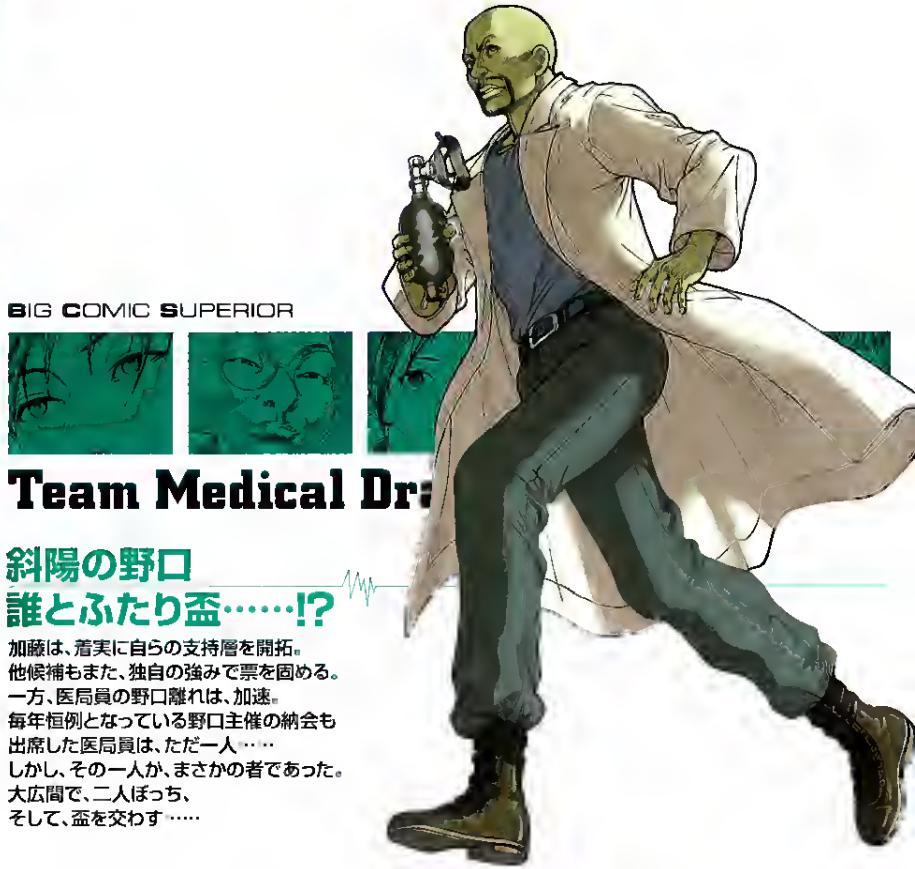

BIG COMIC SUPERIOR

Team Medical Dr

斜陽の野口
誰とふたり盃……!?

加藤は、着実に自らの支持層を開拓。
他候補もまた、独自の強みで票を固める。
一方、医局員の野口離れは、加速。
毎年恒例となっている野口主催の納会も
出席した医局員は、ただ一人……
しかし、その一人が、まさかの者であった。
大広間で、二人ぼっち、
そして、盃を交わす……

乃木坂太郎 著作集

■ビッグコミックス

医龍……1～23集発売中!!

■ビッグコミックス好評発売中！■

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太陽の黙示録 建国編（かわぐちかいじ）……1～7集
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上京花日（いわしげ孝）……1～5集
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医龍 Team Medical Dragon

［いりゅう］

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乃木坂太郎

［原案］永井 明
［医療監修］吉沼美恵

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キーチ!!（新井英樹）……全9巻
キーチVS（新井英樹）……1～5集
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シリーズ十人十艶 空を泳ぐ女（倉科遼 宝麗二平）……全1巻
匠三代（倉科遼 佐藤智一）……1集
マネーの拳（三田紀房）……全12巻
社買い人 岬悟（国友やすゆき）……全6巻
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県庁の星（総監製作 ダ・今谷鉄柱）……全4巻
世界の中心でくだをまく（仮）（ロドリゲス井之介）……1～3集
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はんなり！（柴門ふみ）……全4巻
タッチアップ（田澤拓也・盛田賢司）……1～5集
スプライト（石川優吾）……1～3集
ダクションマン（猪熊しのぶ）……1～2集
フットボールネーション（大武ユキ）……1集

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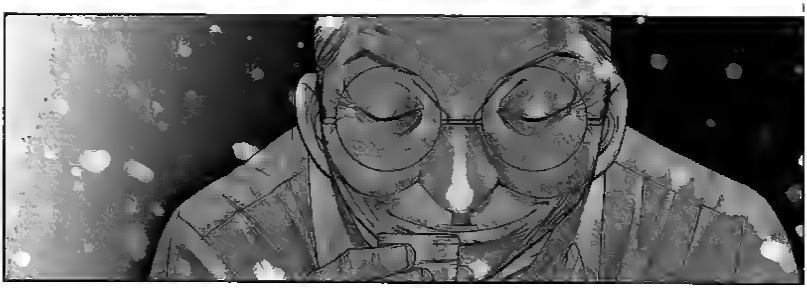
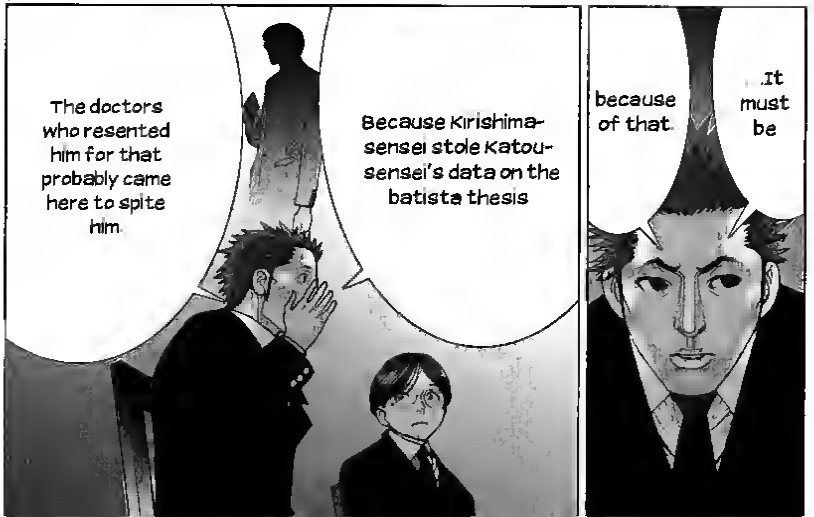
CHAPTER
150
GUEST



CHAPTER 150 GUEST


The doctors who resented him for that probably came here to spite him.
Because Kirishima-sensei stole Katou-sensei's data on the batista thesis
because of that.
...It must be

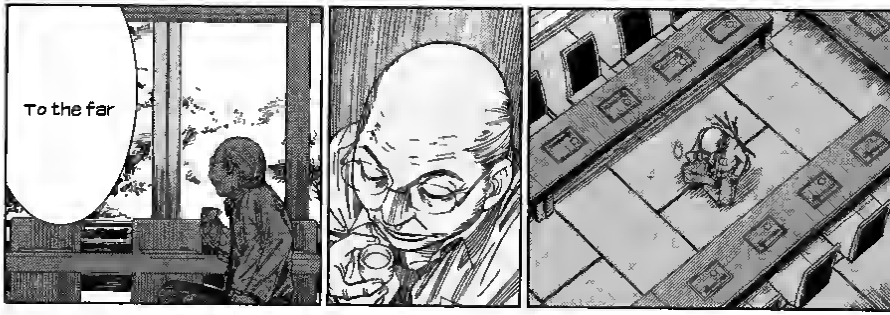
*This manga is a work of fiction. Any relations to actual persons dead or alive is purely coincidental

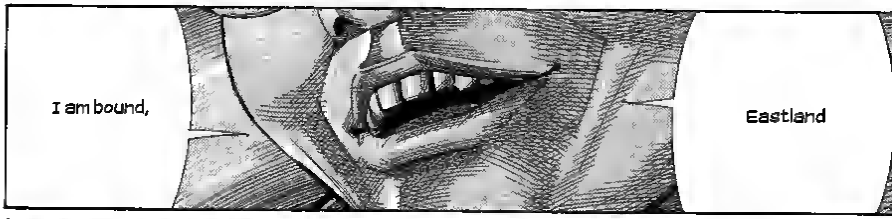
IF YOU'RE CARELESS, IT MAY HAPPEN THAT YOU'LL FIND YOUR RESEARCH PUBLISHED UNDER SOMEONE ELSE'S NAME.
IN THE MEDICAL OFFICE,
IT OFTEN HAPPENS THAT A THESIS GETS STOLEN.
Yeah, probably....
TO THE DOCTORS WHO DO RESEARCH,
A FAIR BOSS SUCH AS KATOU-SENSEI, MIGHT BE THE BEST OPTION
Ah, Nakata-sensei, is Asada-sensei there?
He's not answering any of my calls
Did he stay at the medical office?

Say hi to Katou-sensei for me.
Ah, sorry, I have an emergency!!
click
THAT ASADA!
WHERE THE HELL IS HE?
Will you be absent? The doctors from the cardiology department are here it's a success
It looks like we lost some people to other candi-dates...

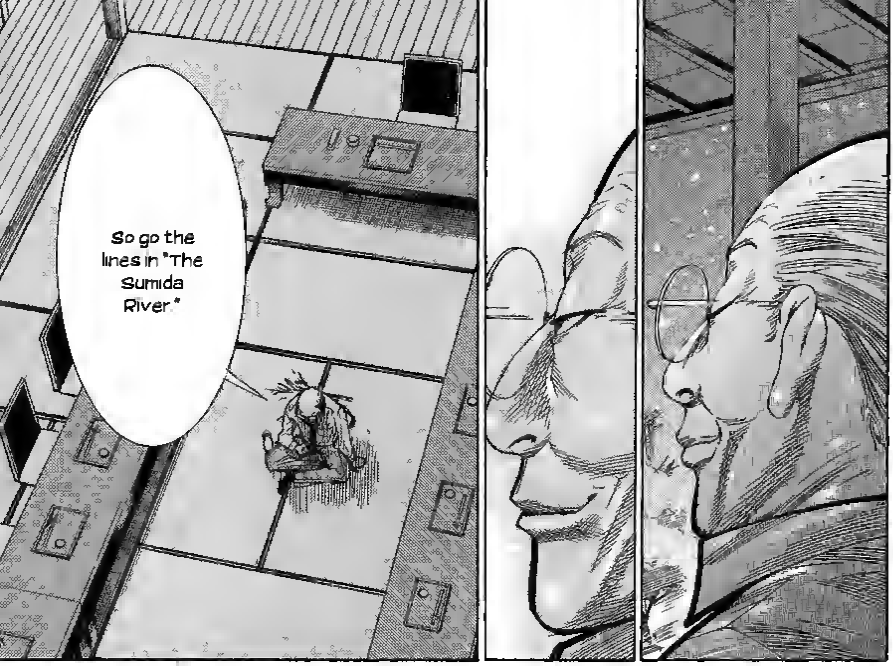
Wakita-sensei is coming over
The Kunitachi-faction is on a good path!
The one to take the throne will be the Kunitachi-faction!!

OUTERWORLD SCANS

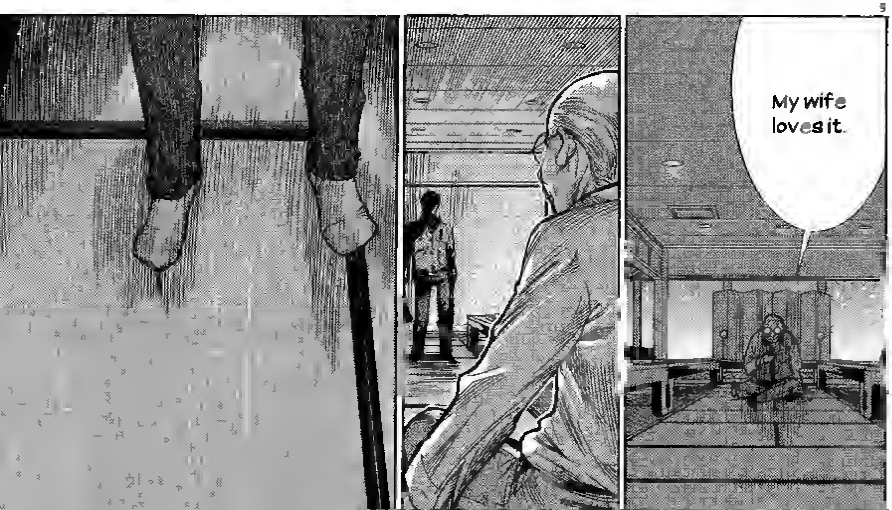

To the far

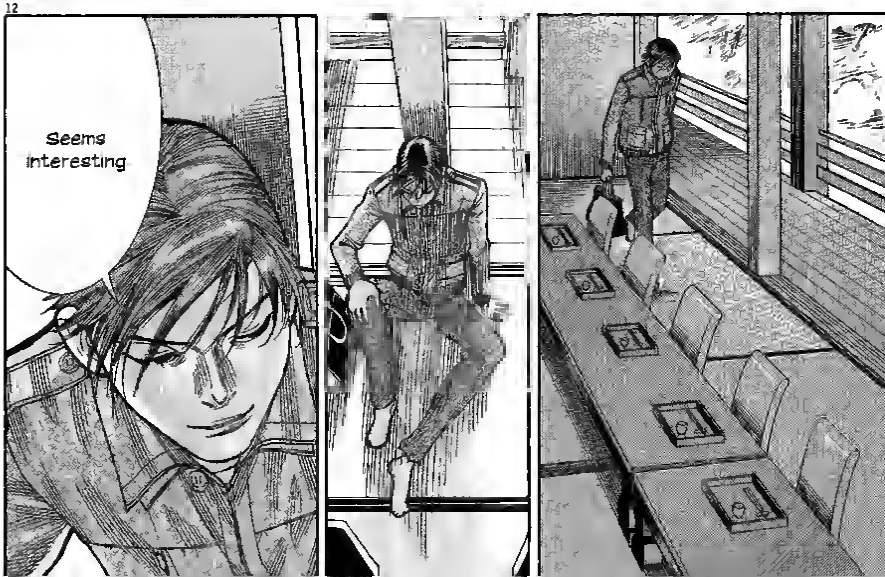

I am bound,
Eastland

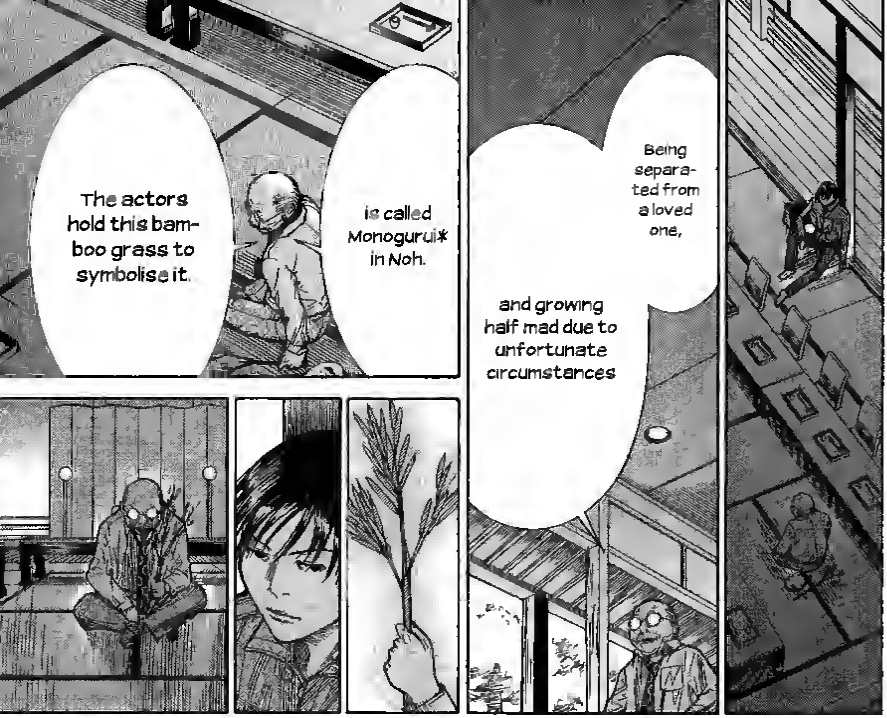
lie
before
me
tedious
days of
travel


So go the lines in "The Sumida River."

It's a story about a mother searching for her child


My wife loves it.


Seems interesting


The actors hold this bamboo grass to symbolise it.
is called Monogurui* in Noh.
Being separated from a loved one,
and growing half mad due to unfortunate circumstances

*T/N Monogurui is the term for madness as a motif in Noh

you fell ill
and consequently got driven to madness, huh.
I see Fufufu
would be the best for your heart.
and living peacefully
Not getting too excited
There's no fooling you is there, fufufufufufu
So,
you came here as a doctor.

OUTERWORLD SCANS

OUTERWORLD SCANS

So even if I don't dance,
this mad spirit might still stop my heart, kukuku

was someone whose name shouldn't even be worth remembering
Kirishima was a loser.
Katou was weak
You're the one who defeated me.
And that intern,
You made them stronger.

All I did
was treat patients
It's because you're like that,
that I couldn't read you

If you were a bit more ambitious,
I could've fought you on equal grounds
Then I wouldn't have gotten cornered this way.
You see,

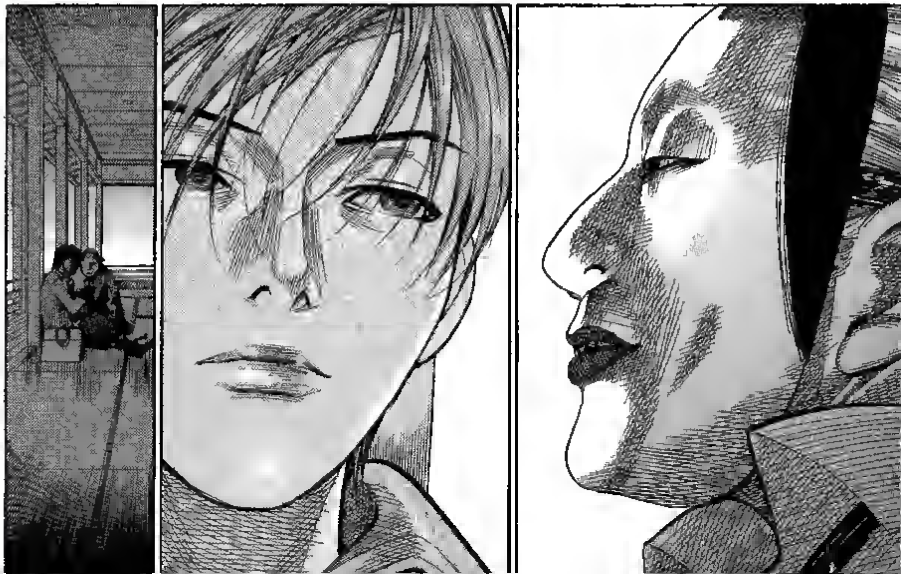
I'm thinking about not supporting anyone anymore
Once I decided that, I was able to take a good look at you.
20
who has an unusually strong influence in politics.
A man without ambitions,
and your influence
Until now, my influence

OUTERWORLD SCANS

So what would happen if I pulled out?
have constantly been fighting eachother.
Don't you think that then,
your influence would have too much of an effect on the medical office?

really be a good thing?
Would that,

Aren't you
just as bad?



You can just ignore me, fufu.
I'm just concerned.
fufufu-fufufu-fufu.
Right now,
So,
you're saying I should also choose not to support anyone?
kuku-kuku
you have a lot of things going for you.
Strong leadership,
a self-righteous personality that affects people,
and

such stubborn-
ness and deter-
mination that
you won't stop
until you achieve
your goal.
You
resemble
me most.
Perhaps,
if you hadn't
possessed
such a great
medical talent,

OUTERWORLD SCANS

Perhaps.

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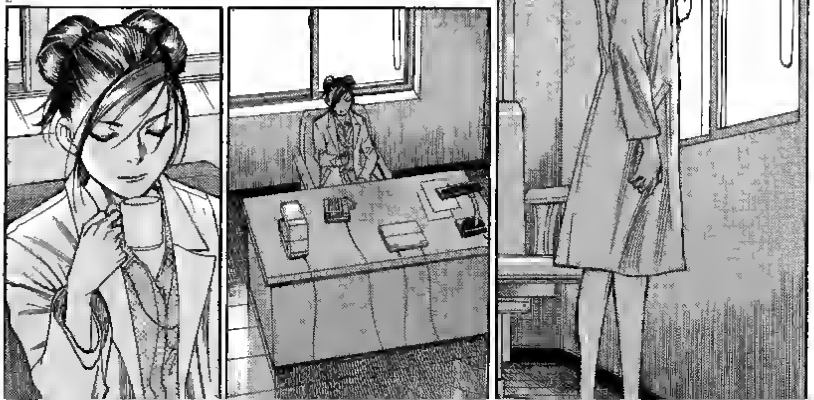
CHAPTER 151 CLOSER THAN EVER



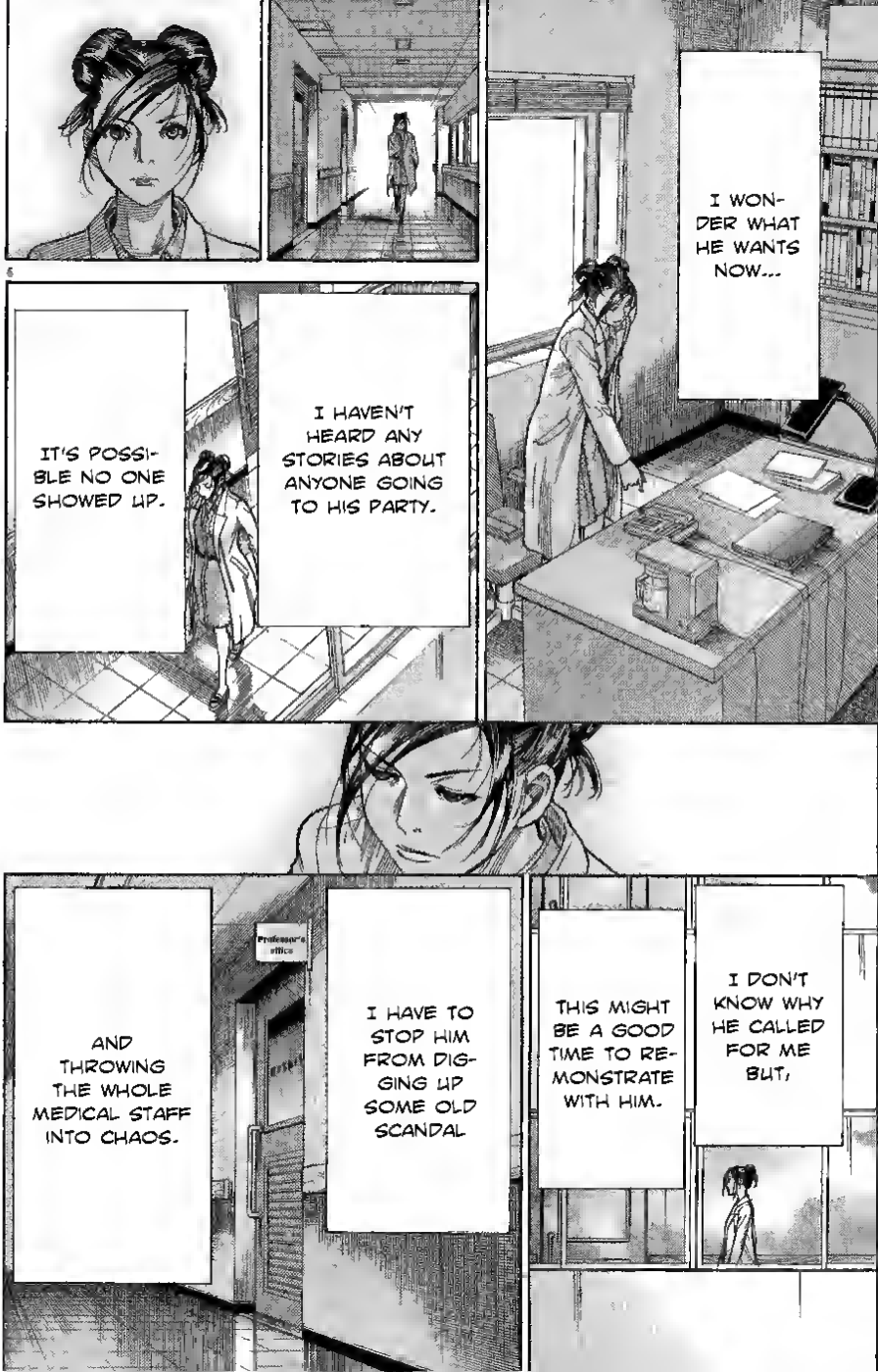
OUTERWORLD SCANS

THE END OF THE YEAR PARTY
WAS A SUCCESS.
I MANAGED TO GATHER QUITE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE.
WITH THIS I CAN FIGHT AGAINST KUNITACHI AND KIRISHIMA.

HOWEVER,
ASADA NEVER SHOWED UP.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
HE DIDN'T GO TO ANY OF THE OTHER CANDI-DATES,
SO IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER.
WELL, HE WAS NEVER ONE TO BE INTERESTED IN POLITICS.
AND SINCE HE'S LEAVING MEISHIN, I WON'T BE ABLE TO RELY ON HIM ANYMORE.
SINCE HE DECIDED TO LEAVE FOR AMERICA,
THIS MIGHT BE THE TIME FOR ME TO STOP DE-PENDING ON HIM.
I'm
going to America
4

FOR SUCH A WHIMSICAL AND CAPRICIOUS PERSON TO HAVE HAD SUCH GREAT INTENTS.
ALTHOUGH I THINK IT'S A BIT FAR-FETCHED
IJUUIN-KUN ALSO BECAME MUCH STRONGER SINCE THEN.
Yes?
Ring
Ring
Yes,
I understand, Noguchi-sensei
I'll be right there

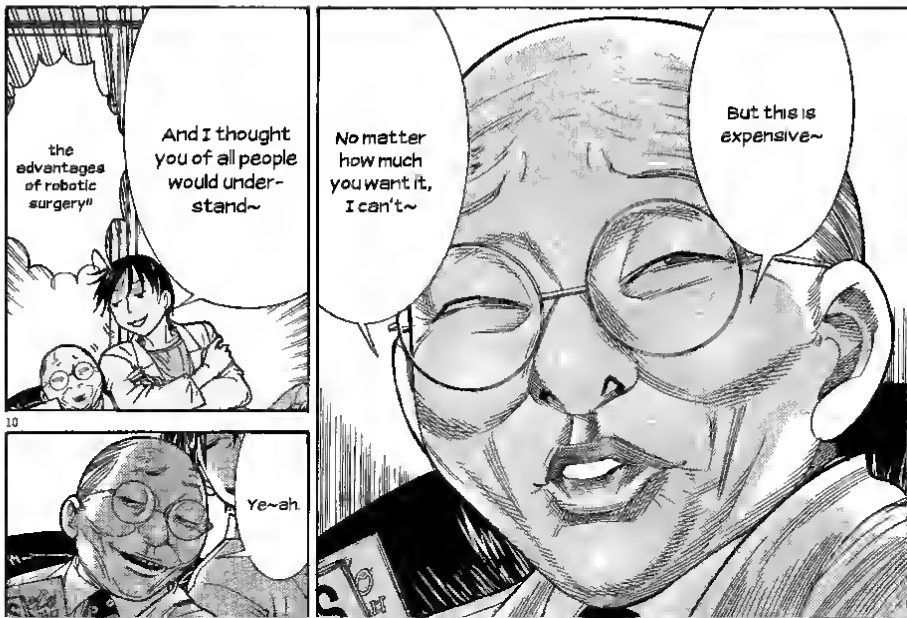

I WONDER WHAT HE WANTS NOW...
I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY STORIES ABOUT ANYONE GOING TO HIS PARTY.
IT'S POSSIBLE NO ONE SHOWED UP.
I DON'T KNOW WHY HE CALLED FOR ME BUT,
THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD TIME TO RE-MONSTRATE WITH HIM.
I HAVE TO STOP HIM FROM DIGGING UP SOME OLD SCANDAL
AND THROWING THE WHOLE MEDICAL STAFF INTO CHAOS.
Professor's office

OUTERWORLD SCANS

Noguchi-sense~
Please buy a surgical robot~
Prometheus or MichelAngelo, either will do~
I want a robot~

!!
bug it
bug it!
PF
HB

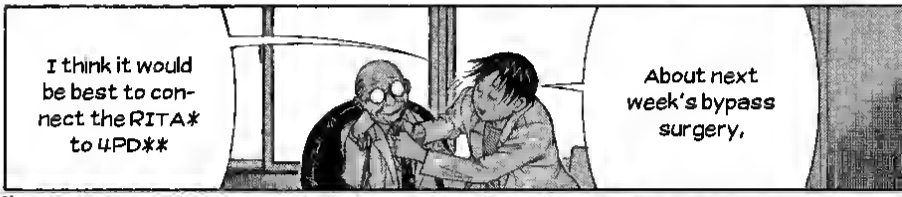
The age of robotics is here, you know~?
We need to have at least one robotic system to help in surgery~
PROMETHEUS
C'mon, sense!


But this is expensive~
No matter how much you want it, I can't~
And I thought you of all people would understand~
the advantages of robotic surgery"
Ye~ah.

I'm no match for you~
I'll buy it~
It's decided
We're getting it!
Sensei, you're the best!

Thanks, Asada-kun
I'll clean your glasses as thanks!!

Come by our house again some time.
Saki-chan took a liking to you.
Really~?
Sakie-san is a real beauty even now~
She was really popular when she was young, am I right?
Did you know?
She had an illicit relationship with Sofue when she was young.
WHAT -



12 *RITA = Right internal thoracic artery **4PD = 4-posterior descending branch

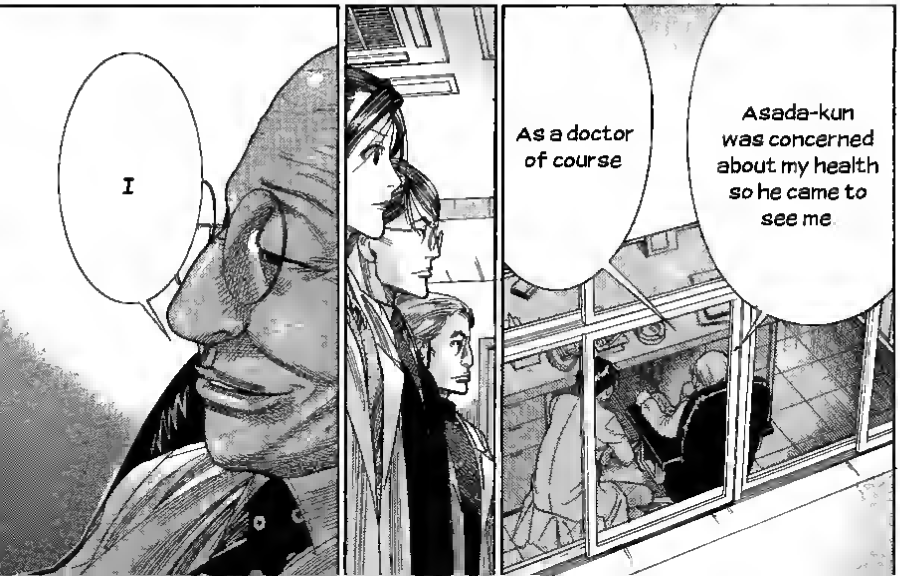
They've been at it since we came...
Well, go for it!
...what to do~
The procedure has already been decided at the meeting
Ha~? I don't think that would be necessary~

OUTERWORLD SCANS

I don't have all day, Noguchi-sensei!!
Could you get to it
and tell us the reason for calling us here?

and we immediately hit it off...
Me and Asada-kun spent the whole new year's drinking with just the two of us,
I got caught up in the conversation.
Sorry, sorry.

you went to Noguchi-sensei's end of the year party?
Asada-kun,
New year...?
Yeah
You see,

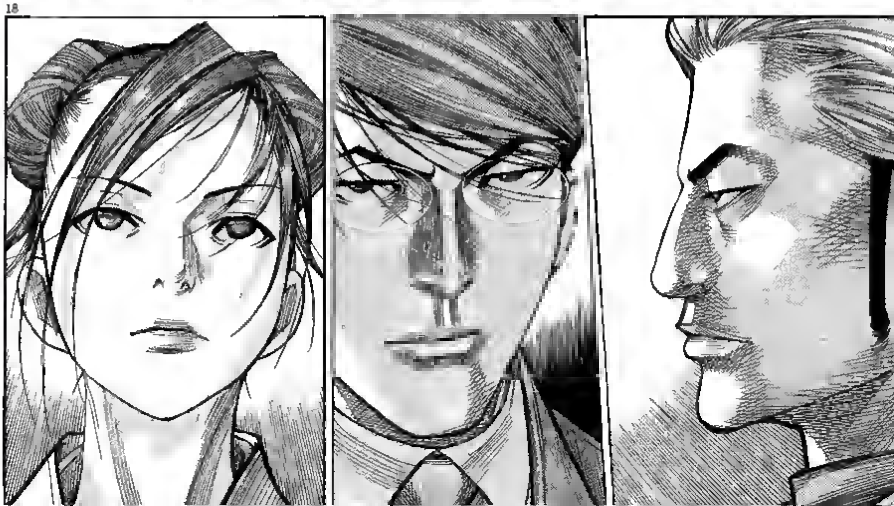

I
As a doctor of course
Asada-kun was concerned about my health so he came to see me

thoracic aortic aneurysm.
have a

It's a very serious condition.
Kirishima-kun already knows about it

I have no more strength to fight for power any more.
So,
I have one final request
Since one of you will become my successor I would like to see your abilities.
I want to know,
how each of you would plan on treating my condition,
and curing me
I would like to

appoint you three as my attending physicians.



accept, right?
You'll all
Yes
If I won't be satisfied with their suggestions, then I'll do that.
You're my trump card
Fufufu
Wouldn't it be best for me to deal with it?
I'll do my best.
Alright
Well then,
Fufufu

from now on,
don't tell anyone about my condition.
Especially you, Kirishima-kun
your subordinates are loose-lipped, so be careful.

It doesn't matter if it's an intern or an assistant,
I won't forgive it.
If word leaks out,
it'll prosecute you for breach of confidentiality.
Don't take this as an empty threat.
The medical office,
is no longer a place I have to protect, fufufu

OUTERWORLD SCANS

...THIS IS WEIRD.
FIRST HE TELLS US, HIS OPPONENTS, ABOUT HIS DISEASE,
THEN HE ORDERS US TO KEEP IT A SECRET FROM EVERYONE?

Asada-kun has something to tell you
Katou-chan,
wait a moment

About your treatment plan,
don't include me in it.
Give it your best,
alone.

We need YOU

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TYPESETTER, QC:
ANNEX

CLEANER(S):
SAMUEL, SHINGETSU

Team Medical Dragon

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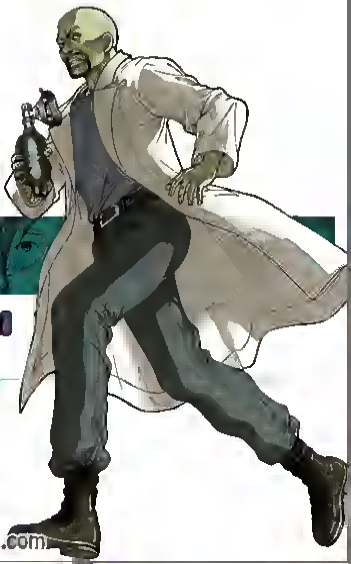
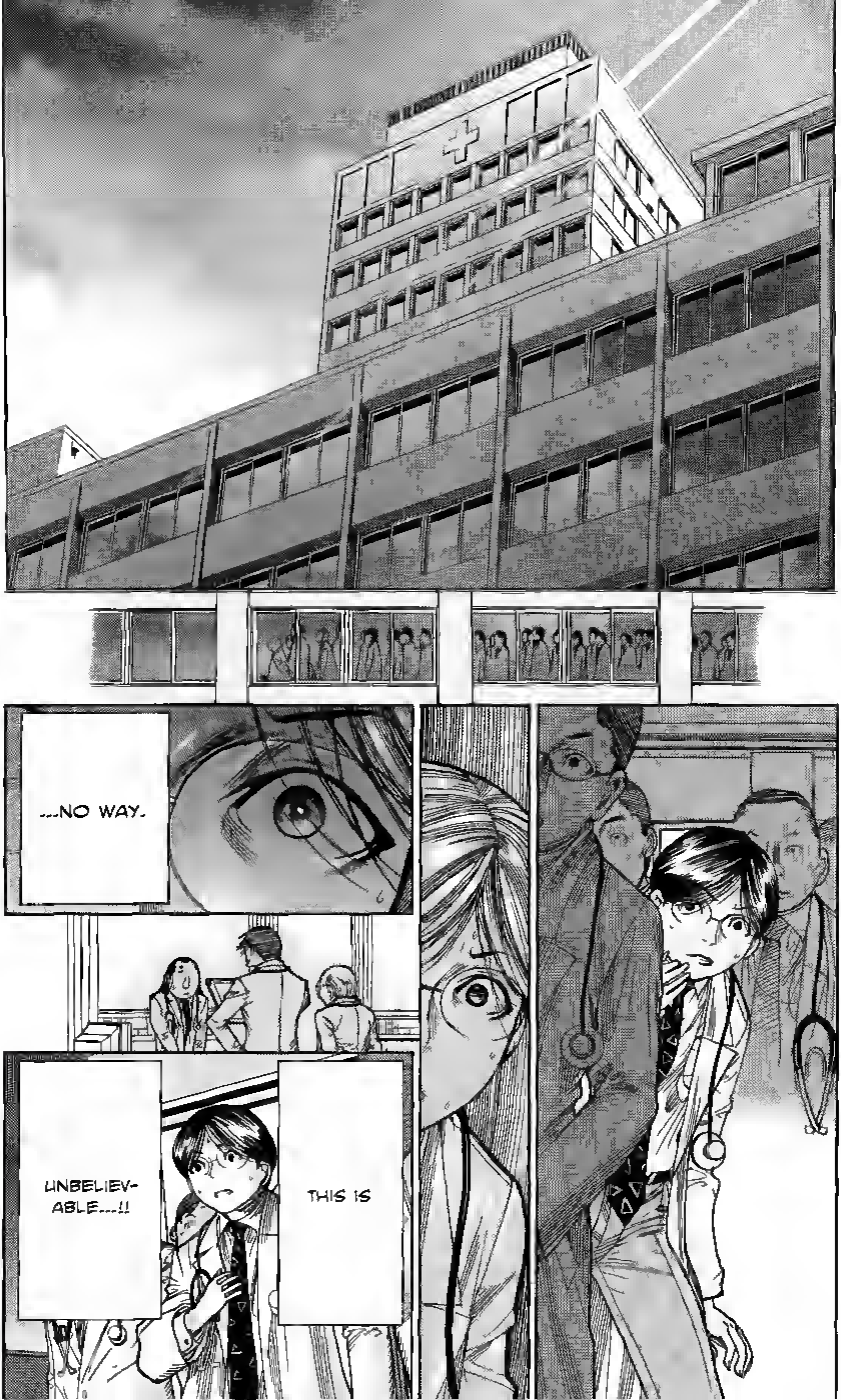
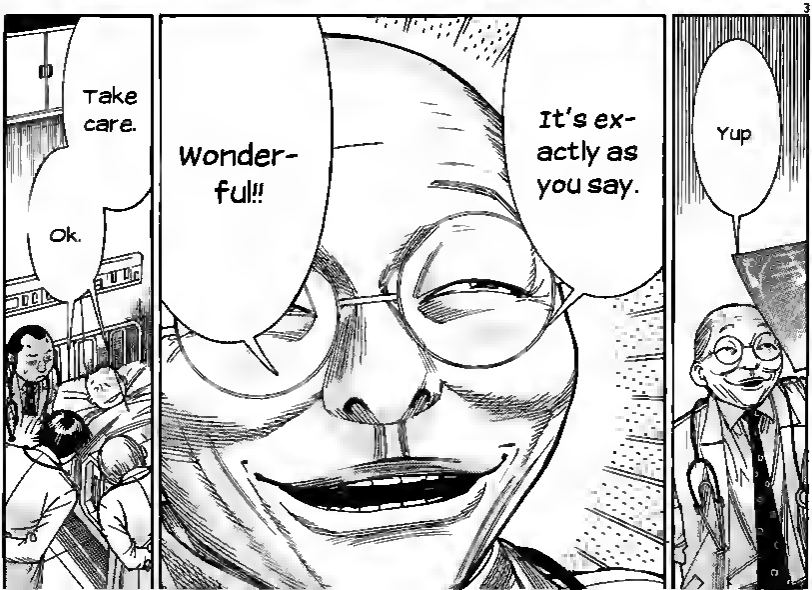


CHAPTER 152
COHORT



OUTERWORLD SCANS

Right, Noguchi-sensei?
This rontgen image doesn't quite explain Kihara-sensei's diagnosis~
That's why~


Take care.
Ok.
Wonder-ful!!
It's ex-actly as you say.
Yup

No
waaay
!!
I'm so proud to have such a talented doctor with me Fufufufu
No, no, it's all thanks to your guidance, hahahaha
Shall we move on?
Yeah
.....

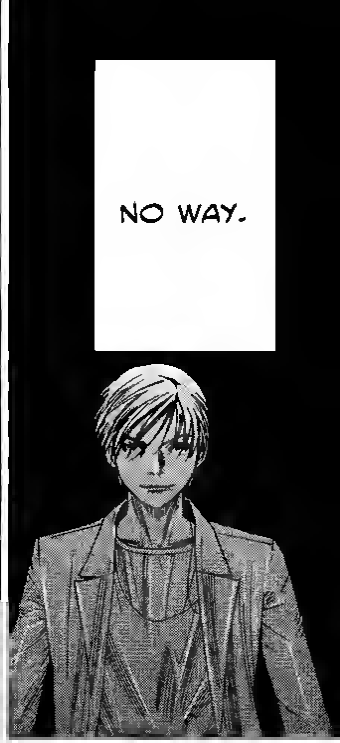
ARE ASADA AND NOGUCHI...
WHY
NO WAY...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
IS THIS REALLY

THE SAME MEDICAL OFFICE...!?
CARDIOTHORACIC DEPARTMENT
EVERY-ONE'S CON-FUSED...!!
Eh~ Didn't he say we don't have the budget for that !?
And it seems like Asada con-vinced him to get a Surgical robot
Really!?
It seems like Asada went to Noguchi-sensei's end of the year party
Kawata-sensei, what's wrong?
WHY ARE THOSE TWO SO CLOSE...!?
THIS IS HARD TO SWALLOW...!!

I made a slight mistake during last year's surgery,
But Noguchi-sensei was very persistent
and now Asada-sensei'll be redoing it...
I don't think it was such a big deal...
I'm getting punished...
ASADA IS HELPING NOGUCHI
BULLY THE STAFF?
HAS HE CROSSED OVER TO HIS SIDE...?
NO,
THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.
BUT,
HE'S THE UNPREDICTABLE TYPE...

OUTERWORLD SCANS

IT COULDN'T BE-
NO, NO, THAT CAN'T BE!!


NO WAY.

We got invited to something sweet
Ah, there ya are.

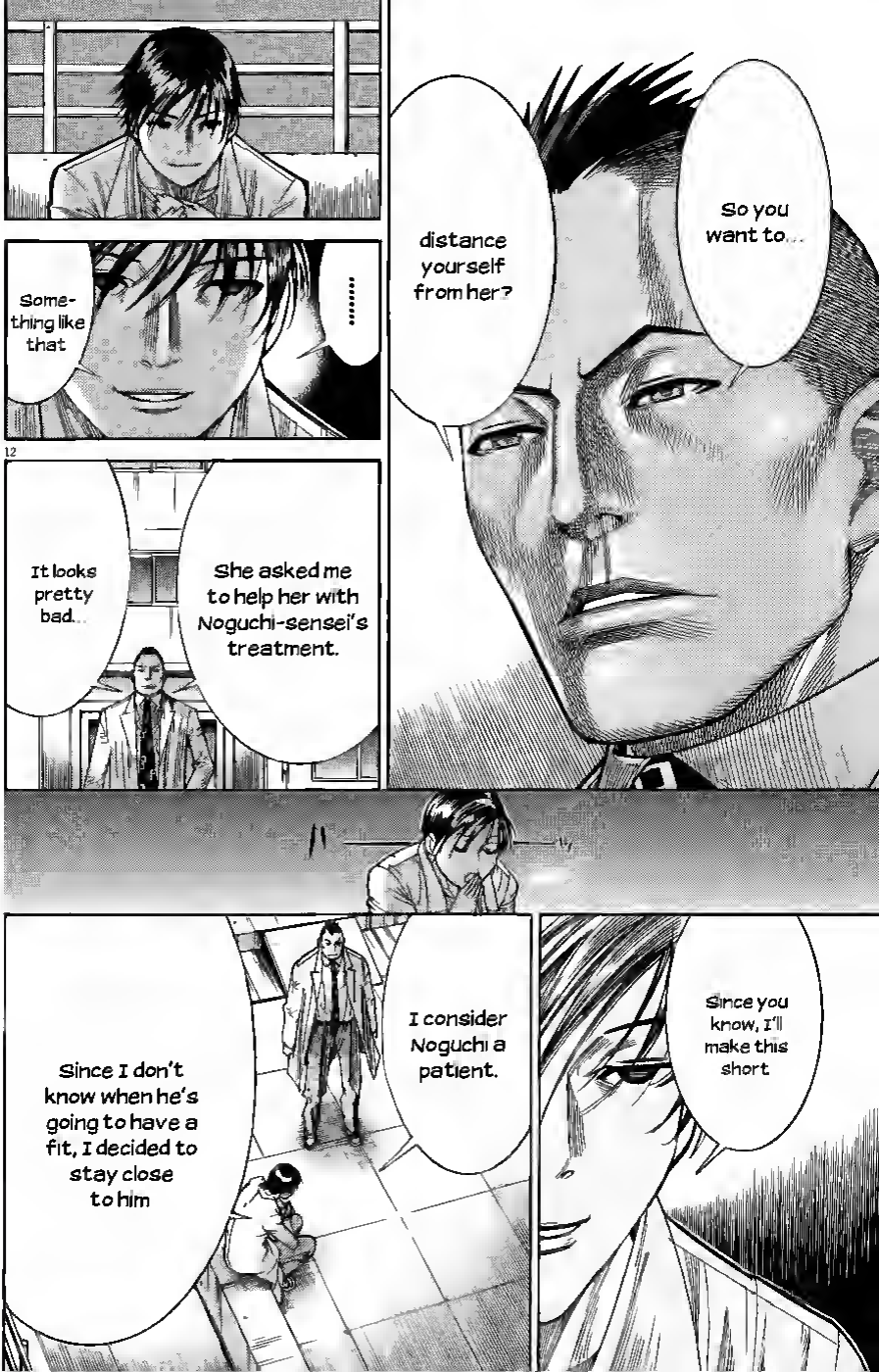
8
Here
What is it? Tea? Chiffon?
Smells nice.

Say, bean-pole
I've been hearing some interesting stuff~
Huh?
Did ya really team up with Noguchi?~
Ya were part of his procession weren't ya?
Why Noguchi of all people, is what Kitou was raging to know~
Scary...
I should keep away from the ER for a while...
Did you see Asada-sensei?
Eh... he's right over there...
An annoying person just came so I'll make myself scarce
.....

WAH!

Asada.
Fancy meeting you here,

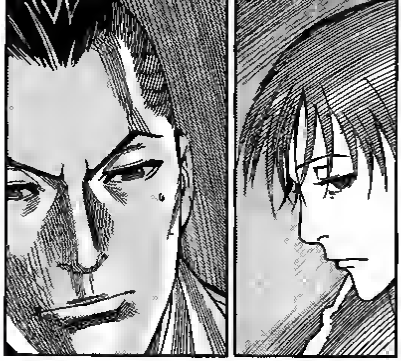
...See ya.
See ya
Wait, you!! Don't try to run!!
I need to talk to you.
Cold~
We can speak privately
No one will come here
..Heh.
You probably want to talk about that, right?
Asada,
I spoke to Katou-sensei

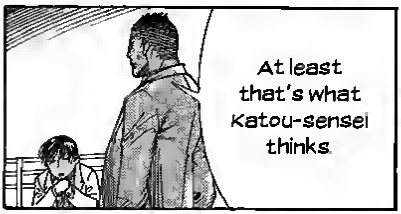

Since you know, I'll make this short
I consider Noguchi a patient.
Since I don't know when he's going to have a fit, I decided to stay close to him
So you want to...
distance yourself from her?
She asked me to help her with Noguchi-sensei's treatment.
It looks pretty bad...
.....
Some-thing like that

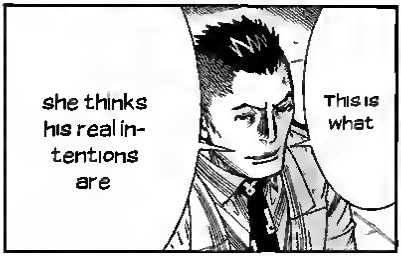
OUTERWORLD SCANS

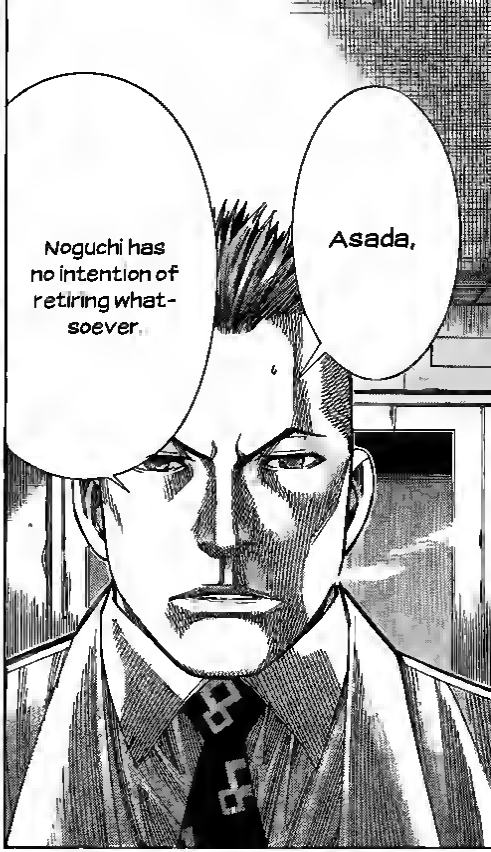
In that case it would've been alright to join forces with Katou-sensei.
Is that all?
That was what you always did.
Then the best team would've come up with the best treatment.
Why did you decide to leave Katou-sensei?

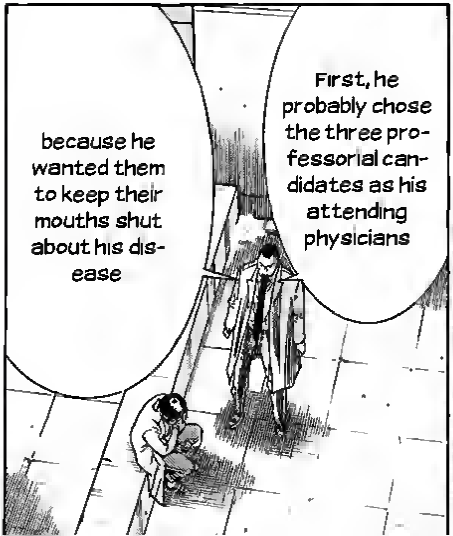
He'll retire and it'll all be over, hehehe
He finally decided to get away from politics and all that ... Did you know?
He says he has no more interest in it




At least that's what Katou-sensei thinks


she thinks his real intentions are
This is what


Noguchi has no intention of retiring whatsoever.
Asada,


because he wanted them to keep their mouths shut about his disease
First, he probably chose the three professorial candidates as his attending physicians

Outside the university, yes
Why keep it a secret?
Would it be bad if word got out?
In other words,
.....
If the news spreads outside, the consequences will be fatal for him

there's a high possibility
that Noguchi has some kind of political agenda outside of Meishin University.
I don't know what that is but,
it's obvious that he's planning something
If it weren't so,
he would've already come up with a reason for you not to perform the surgery on him.

FUTURE WORLD SCANS

that anyone would immediately find out,
is what Noguchi said
.....!!

You found out,
Since you know, I'll make this short
Kunitachi, Gunji and Katou
are no longer allowed to leak the info about Noguchi, kukukukuku
That's where Noguchi got one over you
.....
You know he's planning something...

You know and you're still helping him!?
If anything happens,
come to the professor's office.

Beca-
use from
now on,
that's
where I'll
be at all
times.
.....
!!

OUTERWORLD SCANS

Now then,
the people in this room
are the ones who will help me come up with a treatment plan for Noguchi.
Erm...
.....
I wonder if we can
come up with a plan that will beat Kunitachi-sensei and Kirishima-sensei, without Asada-sensei

We have no other choice
With this team
we have to surpass them,
and,

come up with a plan,
that will even beat Asada.

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Team Medical Dragon

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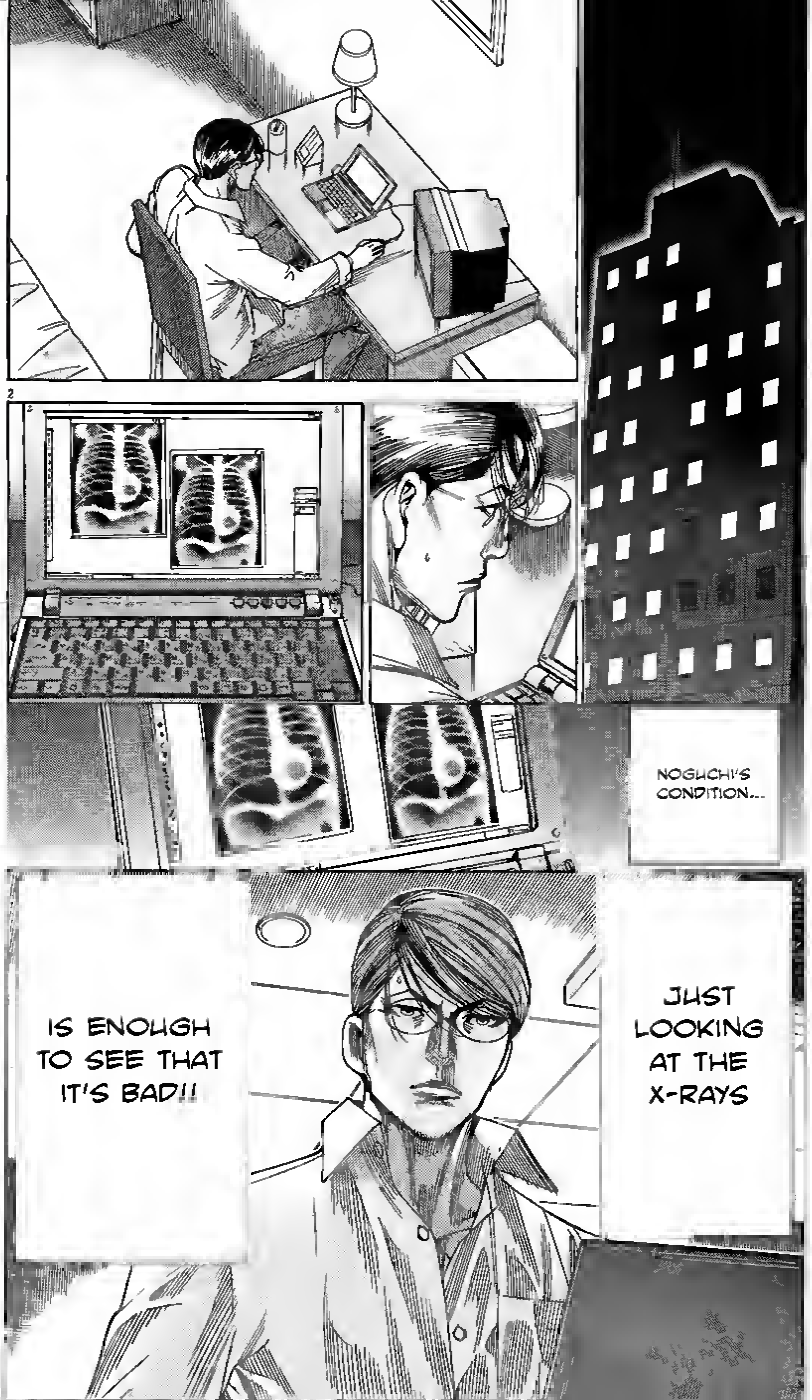
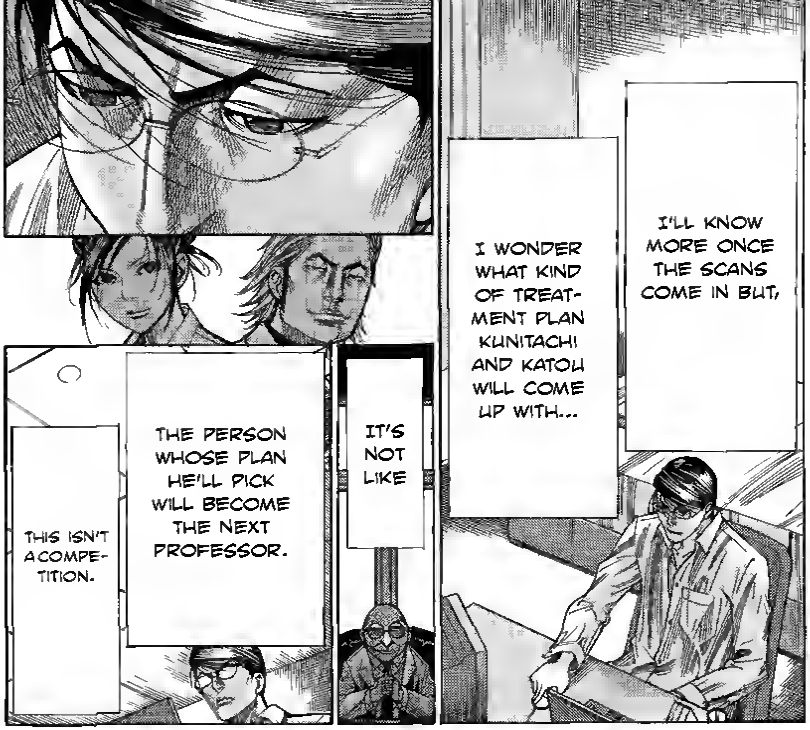
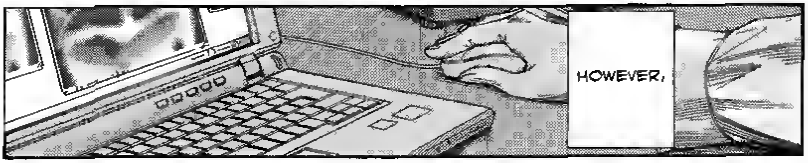
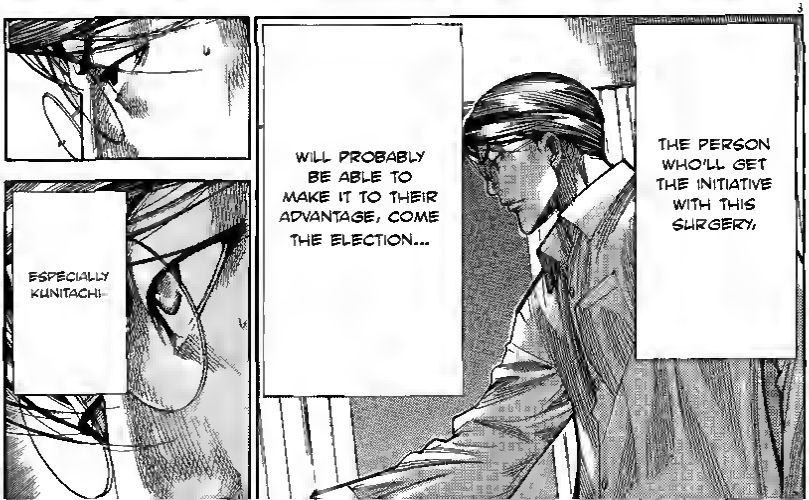
CHAPTER 153
US ARMED FORCES



UTERWORLD SCANS


I'LL KNOW MORE ONCE THE SCANS COME IN BUT,
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF TREATMENT PLAN KUNITACHI AND KATOU WILL COME UP WITH...
IT'S NOT LIKE
THE PERSON WHOSE PLAN HE'LL PICK WILL BECOME THE NEXT PROFESSOR.
THIS ISN'T A COMPETITION.


HOWEVER,


THE PERSON WHO'LL GET THE INITIATIVE WITH THIS SURGERY,
WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE, COME THE ELECTION...
ESPECIALLY KUNITACHI.

EVERYONE ACKNOWLEDGES HIS ABILITY, BUT HE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO DIRECTLY SHOW HIS SKILLS TO EVERYONE.
DEMONSTRATING THEM BY OPERATING ON NOGUCHI MIGHT AS WELL BRING HIM VICTORY.
HE PROBABLY PLANS ON
PERFORMING SOMETHING INNOVATING WITH THE STRONGEST MEMBERS.
IF I DON'T PREPARE FOR THAT,

I WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET THE DEMANDS,
NOGUCHI SET BY CHOOSING ALL THREE PROFESSORIAL CANDIDATE AS HIS ATTENDING PHYSICIANS.
WITH THE PEOPLE
AT MY DISPOSAL
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PLAN A SIMPLE AND SAFE SURGERY.
BUT WILL HE BE SATISFIED WITH THAT?
AFTER ALL, IT'S HIS LIFE THAT'S AT STAKE HERE.

A MEDIOCRE PERSON,
PERFORMING A SURGERY WORTHY OF A GENIUS!!
KATOU, WHO LOST ASADA,
SHOULD BE FACING THE SAME PROBLEM...

COULD I
PULL IT OFF?

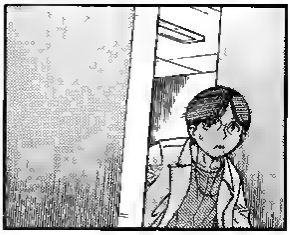
OUTERWORLD SCANS

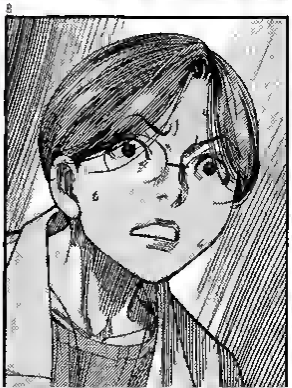
He went to the bathroom a while ago.
Erm...

Excuse me
Have you seen Arase-sensei?
psst

AND HE LEFT THE ER IN HIS INTOXICATED STATE...!!
I TOOK MY EYES OFF OF HIM FOR AN INSTANT

Thanks





HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THAT FATTY.
WHY DO I

A PATIENT FOUND HIM!!

Ah, erm...
I'll take it from here, so...
That doctor caught a cold... haha.
—BLUE EYES? A FOREIGNER?

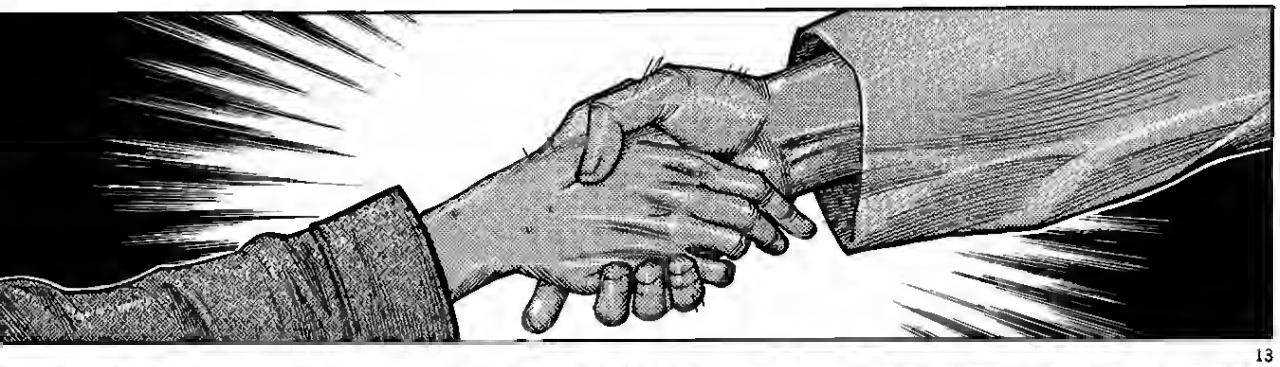
Ah... He caught a cold.
This doctor got
intoxicated with an anesthetic induction agent
A cold?
...no.
...HE FOUND OUT.
...THIS IS BAD.

WE ALSO HAVE USELESS DOCTORS LIKE HIM AT OUR UNIVERSITY...
YOU NEED TO VALUE YOUR LIFE.
YOU ONLY HAVE ONE.
YOU SHOULD HAVE A PURPOSE YOU NEED TO SERVE IN LIFE, YOU HAVE TO STOP DOING THIS AND CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY IN SOME WAY.
...HOWEVER, THIS GUY'S OVERDOING IT. YOU'LL DIE.
IF YOU ALSO TOOK THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH*...BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH...
SHUT UP.
AT OUR UNIVERSITY?, DOCTOR?
COULD THIS PERSON

T/N An oath taken by physicians to uphold ethical standards. 11

Take me to the ER.
Youngster,
GULP
12
I'm Daniel Bauman.
An Anesthe-siologist.

E R



Since you said you couldn't save the patient without me, I couldn't refuse.
For that, I'd go anywhere in the world, Doctor Kunitachi.
Doctor Bauman.
Since you were so busy I didn't think you'd accept my invitation,
Doctor Bauman
It's been a while
Likewise
I'm looking forward to working with you again
Doctor Kitou, how are you?

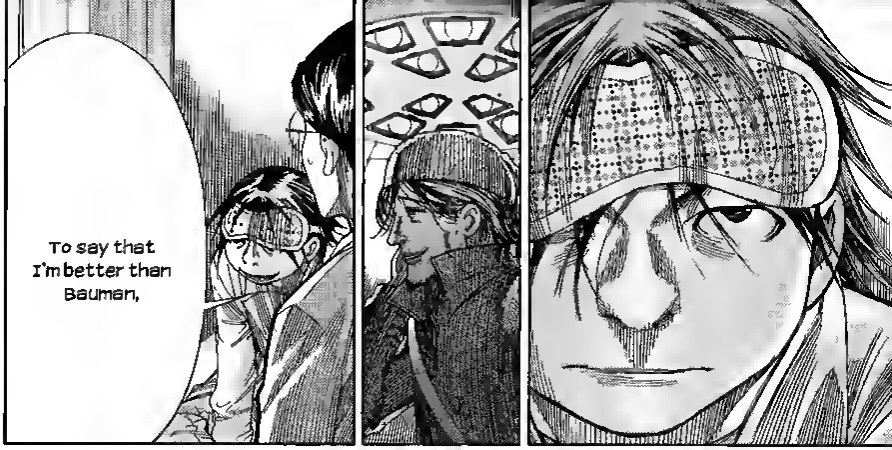
OUTERWORLD SCANS

...Bauman?
Are you still high?
They repeated his name many times.
I was sure he'd also use you as his anaesthesiologist
Seems like Kunitachi-sensei plans on performing Noguchi-sensei's surgery with Doctor Bauman
...no way.
It's really Bauman.
Do you know him?

He's the world's greatest anaesthesiologist.

I once saw him at a convention, when I was younger.
Not just his skills, but also the number and quality of his essays is amazing.

Essays aside,
..but,
Your skills are better, right?
If ya were to ask 10000 doctors, 9999 of them would say he's the best...kekekeke.
Don't be an idiot.
All anaesthesiologists admired him,
and were jealous of him
..well,
I feel like there would be one. kekeke
Yeah.
Just one?


To say that I'm better than Bauman,

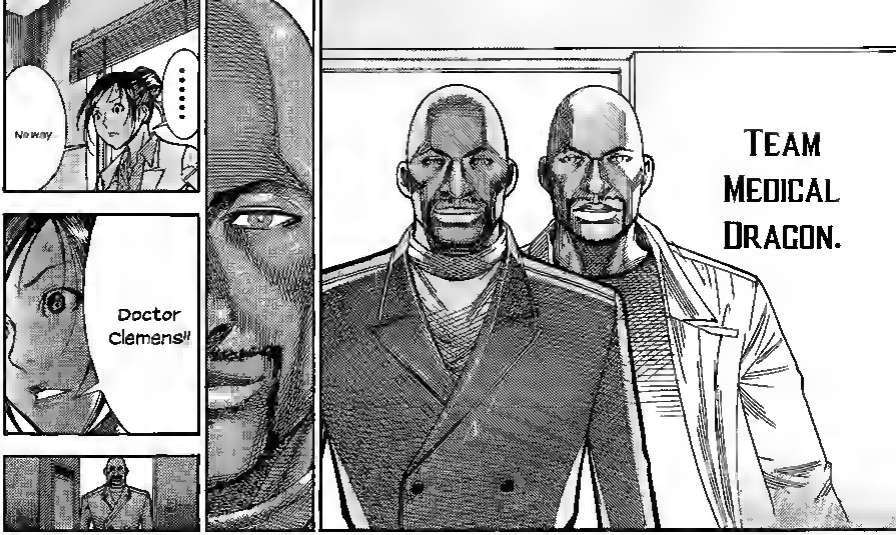
If it were Asada,
he'd probably say that, kekekeke.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
When did you arrive to Japan?
Yesterday evening

How many years has it been?
You could've told me you were coming
I wanted to surprise you.
I'm glad you're doing fine, Katou.
Are you free?
We could go out for tea
Unfortunately, I have another place I need to visit,
here, at Meishin university
Where?
I'll take you there

FUTEKIWORLD SCANS

E R
21
...no way
This is the man
who once introduced me and Asada at a NGO.
That team,
I respect it so much, I call it


Noemy
.....
Doctor Clemens!!
TEAM MEDICAL DRAGON.

I'll be assisting
Kunitachi's team.

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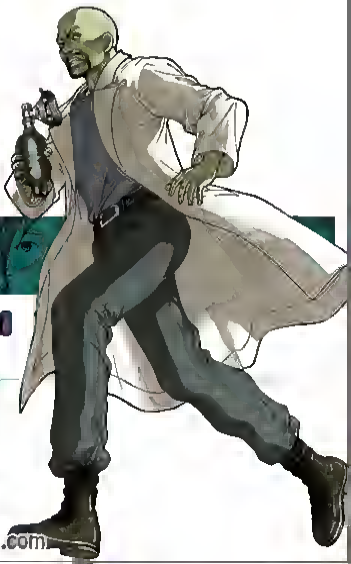
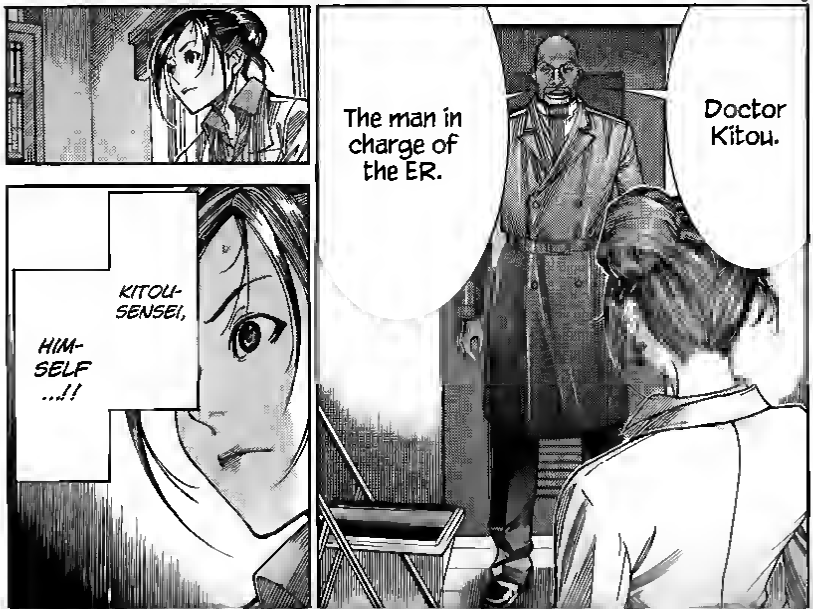


154
All-Stars

You'll assist Kunitachi-sensei?
Doctor Clemens.
2
Yeah.
I'll only be the second assistant.
Even so,

An important part of my job is to observe
how the talented personnel at both the Bond university and Meishin are performing.
Giving a hand during surgery
is also a part of observation.
But if a talented person such as yourself won't be the first assistant
then, just who will take that role?


Doctor Kitou.
The man in charge of the ER.
KITOU-SENSEI, HIM-SELF ...!!

EVEN IF IT'S KUNITACHI,
ASKING A PROFESSOR TO ASSIST HIM IS SURELY GOING TO MAKE PEOPLE THINK HE'S LOOKING DOWN ON THE PROFESSORS.
THE SENIOR PROFESSORS IN PARTICULAR, WILL BE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE IDEA

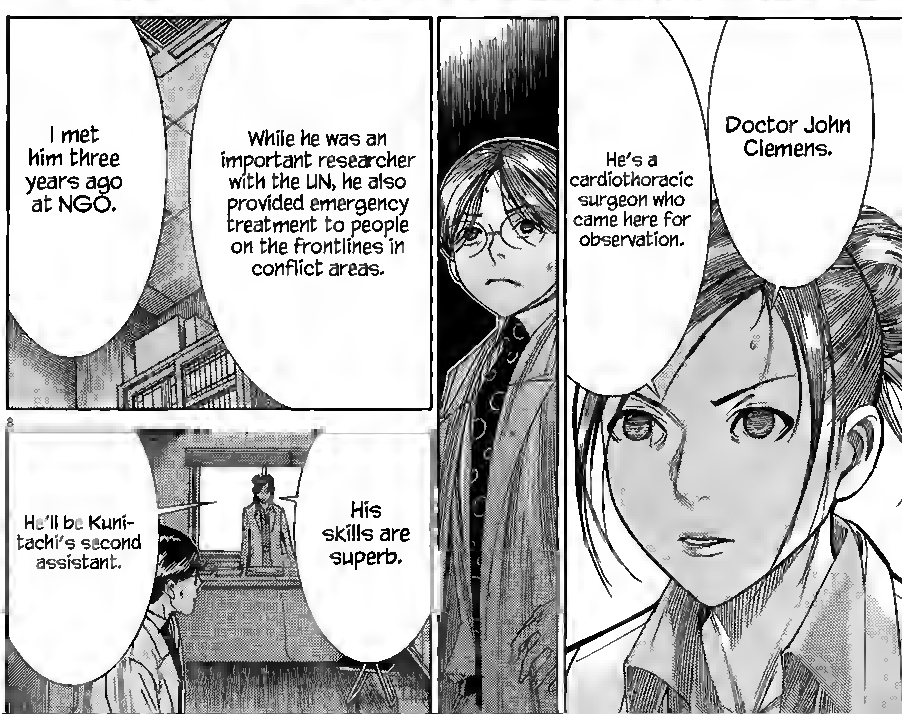
OUTERWORLD SCANS

Asada here?
...is
.....
Yeah.
There is one other thing
I came here to observe.

I wanted to see
What kind of dragon
you and Asada created here in Japan.

Katou.
I'm looking forward to it,

H-hello.
Who was that just now?
Well then,
see ya.
CLICK


I met him three years ago at NGO.
While he was an important researcher with the UN, he also provided emergency treatment to people on the frontlines in conflict areas.
He'll be Kunitachi's second assistant.
His skills are superb.
He's a cardiothoracic surgeon who came here for observation.
Doctor John Clemens.

will be helping Kunitachi-sensei with the surgery...
A famous anes-thesiol-ogist
Did you need some-thing?
Bauman...
used his papers as reference material a lot...
I
Seeing how Kunitachi is gathering all these doctors...
He's an all-star.

OUTERWORLDSCANS

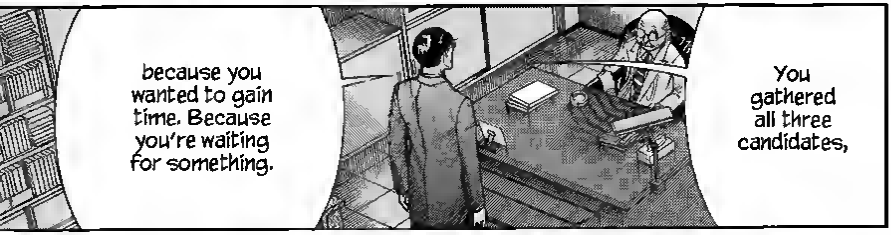
* A stent is a tiny tube placed in a blood vessel to hold it open.

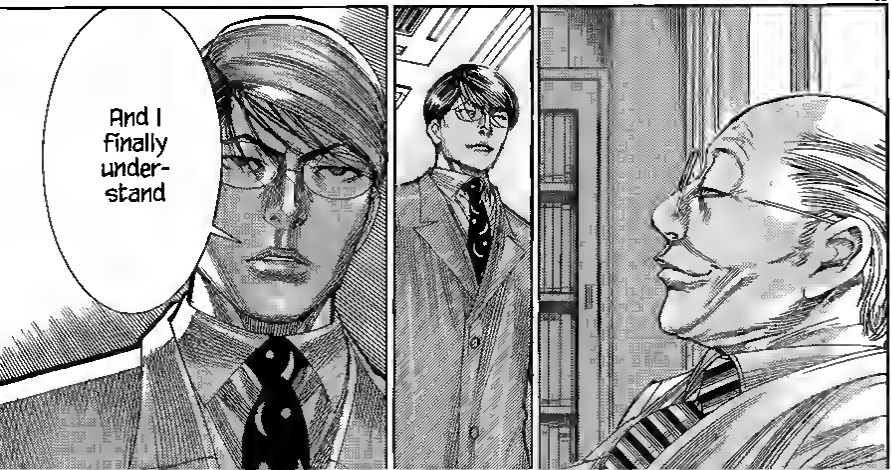
However,

I don't think
he's the best.

PROFESSOR'S OFFICE
Kunitachi's team is the best in the hospital.

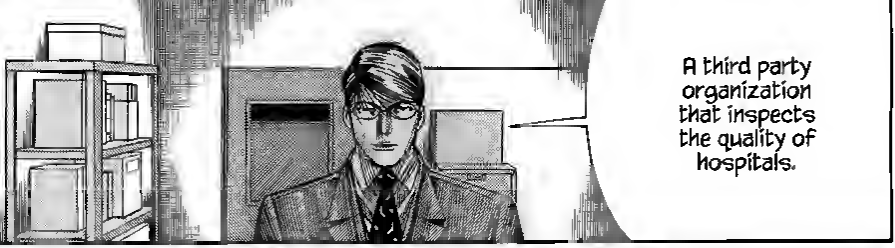
He's an exceptional doctor.
If you had him perform the surgery right now
60% say he would've saved your life.
However,
you didn't do it.

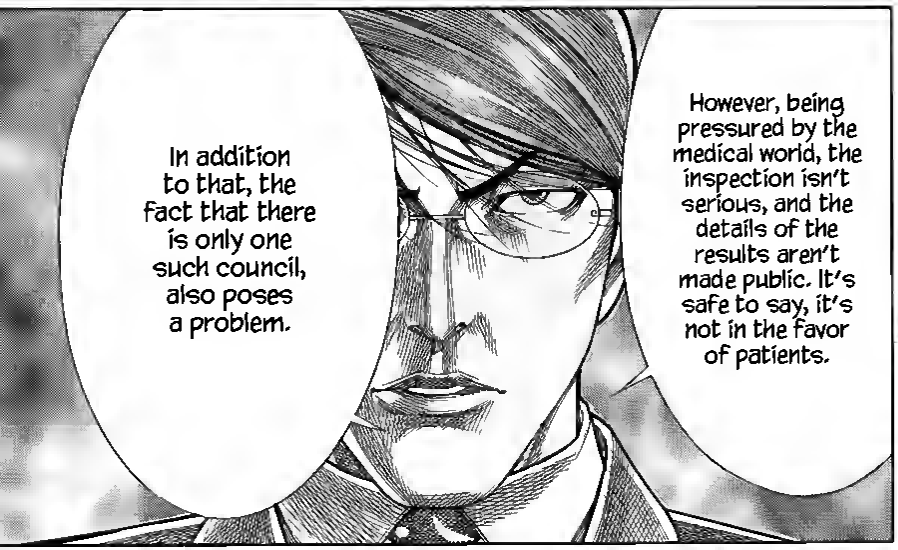

You gathered all three candidates,
because you wanted to gain time. Because you're waiting for something.

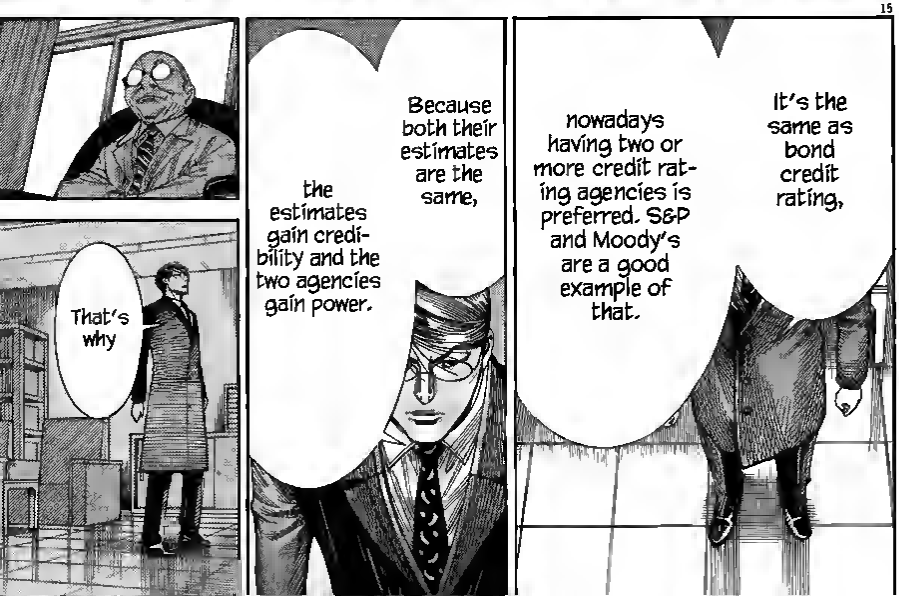

And I finally understand

What?
You know about it.
The ministry of health labor and welfare and the medical association both provided money,
to establish a council for quality health care*, here in Japan.

*T/N From what I understood, this is something like the Japanese version of the JCI (Joint Commission International)


A third party organization that inspects the quality of hospitals.


In addition to that, the fact that there is only one such council, also poses a problem.
However, being pressured by the medical world, the inspection isn't serious, and the details of the results aren't made public. It's safe to say, it's not in the favor of patients.

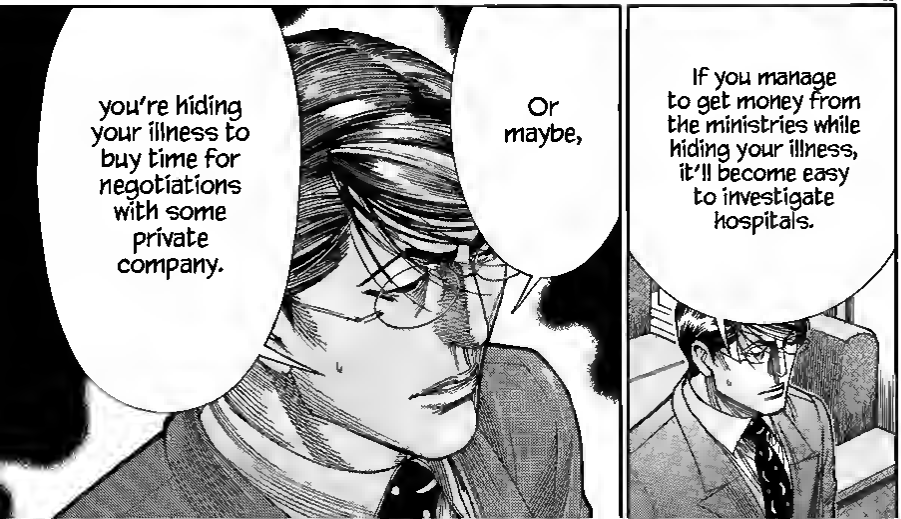

That's why
the estimates gain credibility and the two agencies gain power.
Because both their estimates are the same,
nowadays having two or more credit rating agencies is preferred. S&P and Moody's are a good example of that.
It's the same as bond credit rating,

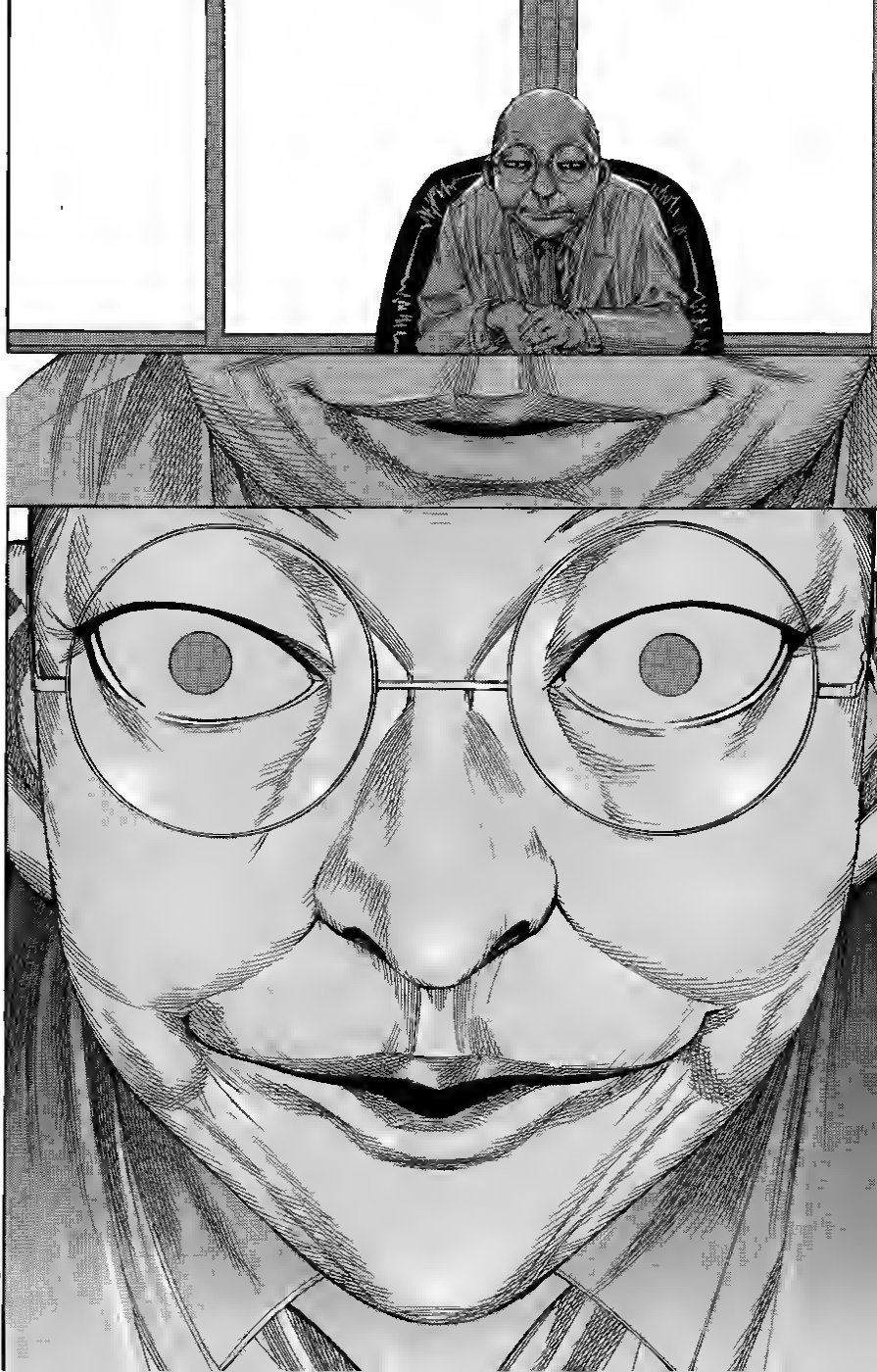
there is
one person,
who is intent
on creating
another council
for quality
health care.

And that person
is you.
First you dug up some scandals concerning the medical office,
to make yourself seem like someone concerned about the Japanese medical care.
It was all an act.
...you've never gone mad.

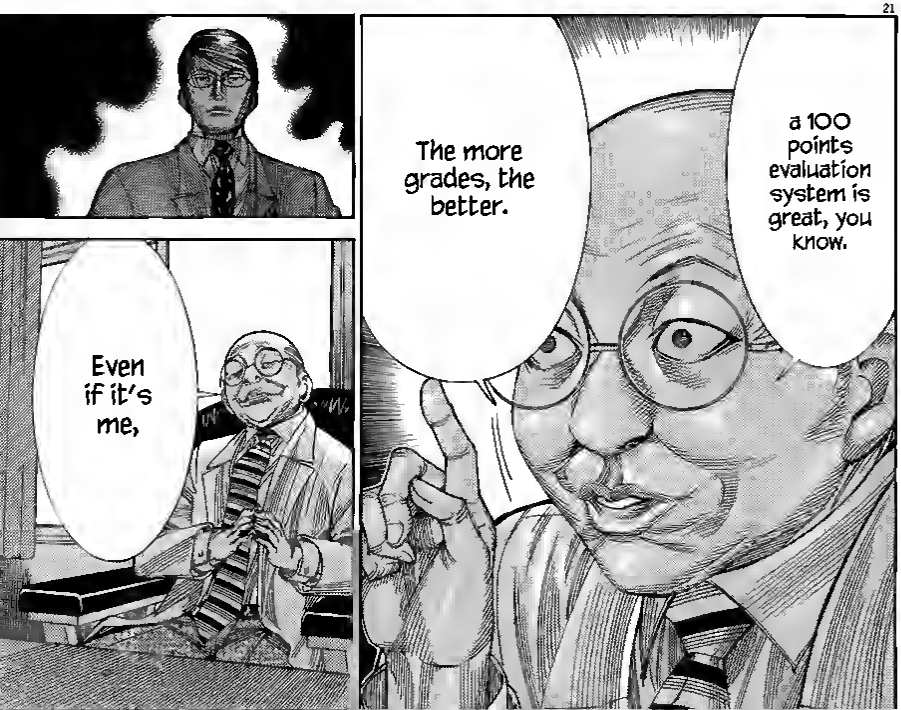
you put on the mask of a reformer,
and kept meeting with every influential person possible, in order to gain support for your council.
Amongst them there are also some who would offer you assistance.
Once you decide on the members for your organization,
There are a lot of important people in The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
you'll only have one problem left to take care of.
Which is?

The funds for establishing the organization.
Money.


you're hiding your illness to buy time for negotiations with some private company.
Or maybe,
If you manage to get money from the ministries while hiding your illness, it'll become easy to investigate hospitals.



I was going around looking for people to join me.
It seems like the news got all the way to Kitanihon university.
...yes.
.....
A five grade evaluation system...
No,


a 100 points evaluation system is great, you know.
The more grades, the better.
Even if it's me,

I couldn't do it,
because even if the results of the investigation wouldn't be made public, there would be another council,
You see?
so it would be suspicious if the two grades were to differ too much.
22
How-ever...
I wouldn't be able to fix points in a five grade evaluation system.
The difference between the highest grade 5 and 4 and 3 is too big...
There isn't much of a difference
between 84 and 85 points.

would want that one extra point.
Yet every hospital,
I don't care.
which one of you becomes the next professor.
It doesn't matter

Since the one who does,
will definitely,
come to buy that one point from me.

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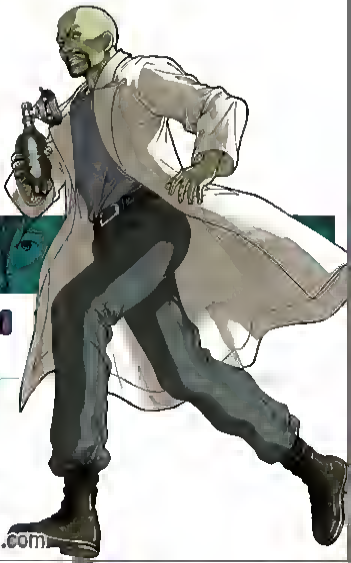
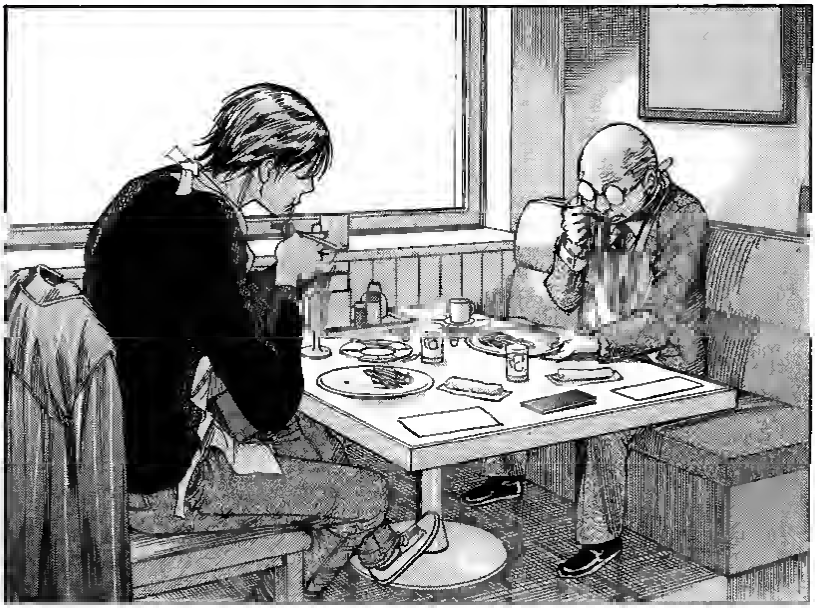


Merry Christmas!
WE MADE IT ANOTHER YEAR -DWS

Chapter 155 – Council for quality health care

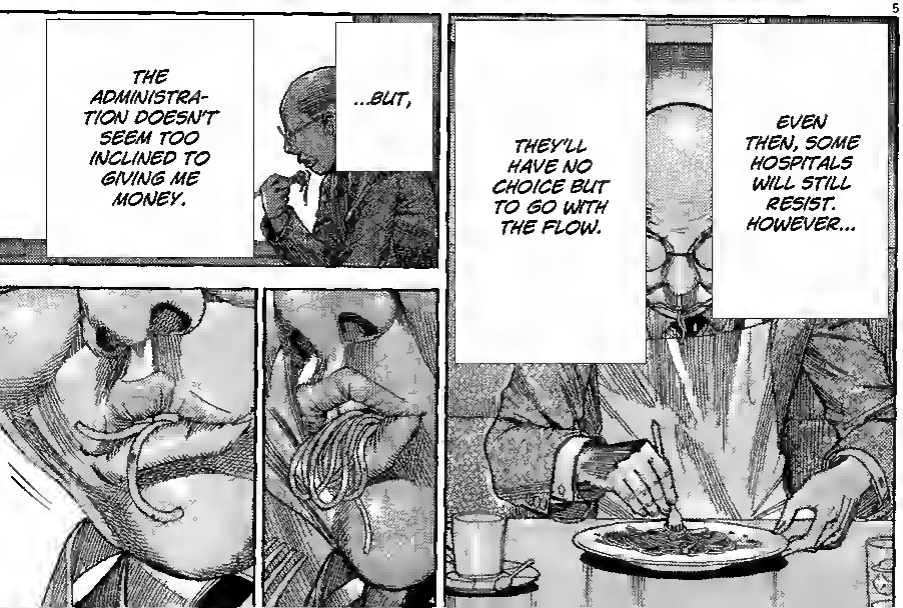


AFTER FINDING OUT THAT I PLAN ON MAKING ANOTHER COUNCIL FOR QUALITY HEALTH CARE,
KIRISHIMA-KUN'S FACE BECAME REALLY PALE.

HE'S SO FOCUSED ON MY ACTIONS,
THAT IT MAKES ME WONDER WHETHER HE'S EVEN THINKING ABOUT MY ILLNESS OR NOT~
AND THEY SAY THAT A PATIENT'S HEALTH IS THE DOC-TOR'S TOP PRIORITY.
YOU SAID IT.
KUKU-KUKU.

I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.
NO MATTER HOW HIGH THE RISK, I'LL BET EVERYTHING ON THIS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M SICK.
THERE ARE A LOT OF HURDLES I NEED TO OVERCOME, IF I WANT TO MAKE ANOTHER COUNCIL FOR QUALITY HEALTH CARE.
AND THE HIGHEST ONE OF THEM ALL
IS THE QUESTION WHETHER THE HOS-PITALS WILL AGREE WITH MY REVIEWS.

FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOR AND WELFARE, WHO PUTS PRESSURE ON HOSPITALS AND DOCTORS.
I NEED MONEY AND AUTHORI-ZATION
THAT'S WHY,
SINCE I PLAN ON HOLDING POWER OVER HOSPITALS BY MAKING THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTI-GATIONS PUBLIC,
THERE'S NO REASON THEY WOULD WILLINGLY AGREE TO IT.


THE ADMINISTRA-TION DOESN'T SEEM TOO INCLINED TO GIVING ME MONEY.
...BUT,
THEY'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO WITH THE FLOW.
EVEN THEN, SOME HOSPITALS WILL STILL RESIST. HOWEVER...

IN THE END,
WILL I BE ABLE TO GET MONEY FROM THE STATE,
BEFORE MY HEART GIVES IN?
FURTHER-MORE,
I NEED TO FIND A BUNCH OF PRIVATE COMPANIES TO SPONSOR ME.
WELL,
IT'S NOT LIKE MY CHANCES ARE ZERO.

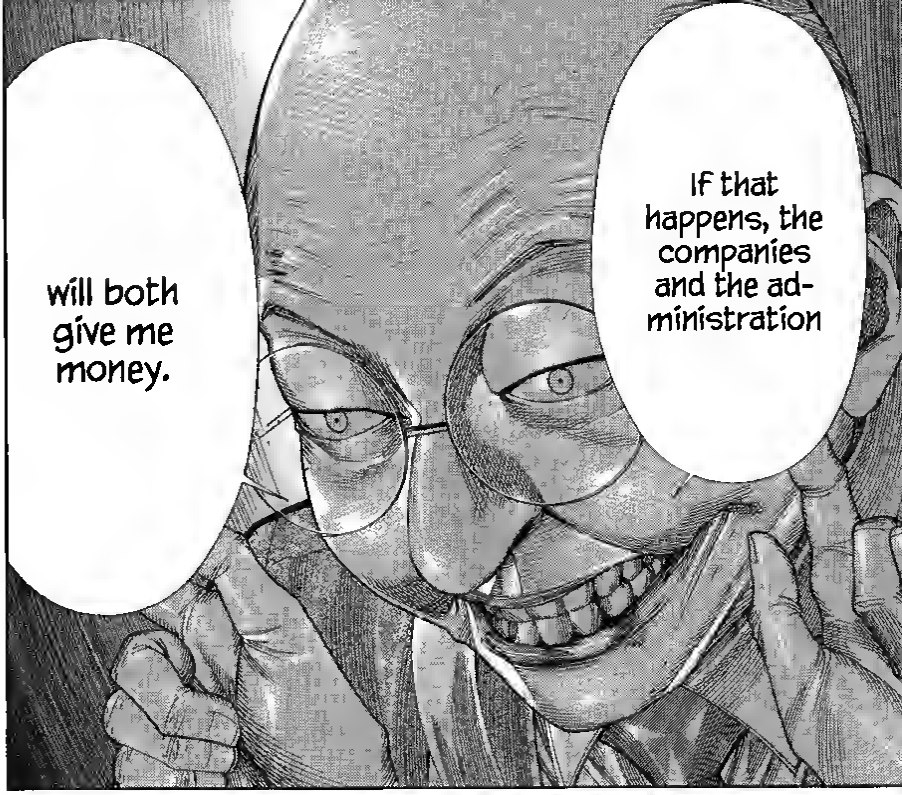
you would be the one to help me.
I never thought
It was a good idea.

To make the health insurance society
one's allies.

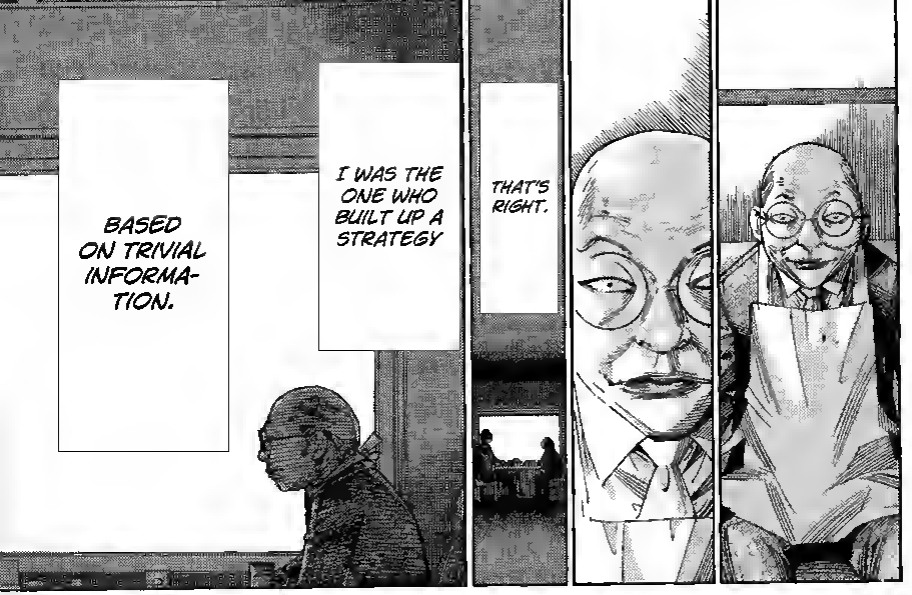
I just...
found the article in your news-paper,
about the economic collapse of a certain health insurance.

and are trying to find ways to reduce their costs as much as possible.
Nowadays, all health insurances are facing hardships,
That's just the beginning.
If there was an organization that would make sure there were no pointless treatments, they would all offer their full cooperation.
win-win.
So it's a win-win situation for both of us, a magnificent idea.
so if I make them my allies, all treatments will go through me.
Health insurances have to pay for the costs of treatment,

FUTERWORLD SCANS


If that happens, the companies and the administration
will both give me money.

That's one of your talents.
To get inspired by such trivial information
and turn it into a feasible idea.


BASED ON TRIVIAL INFORMATION.
I WAS THE ONE WHO BUILT UP A STRATEGY
THAT'S RIGHT.

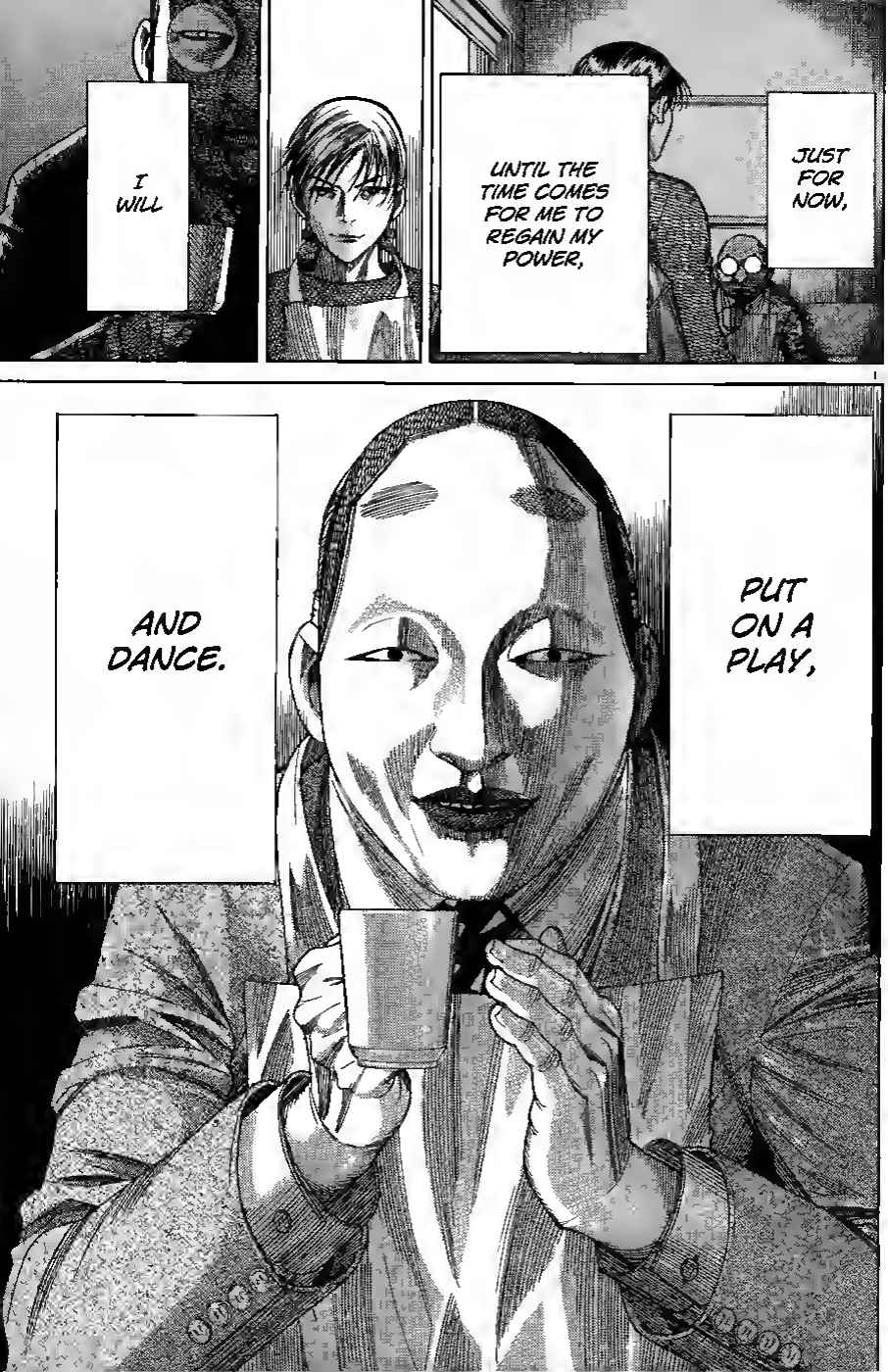
HOW-EVER,
...

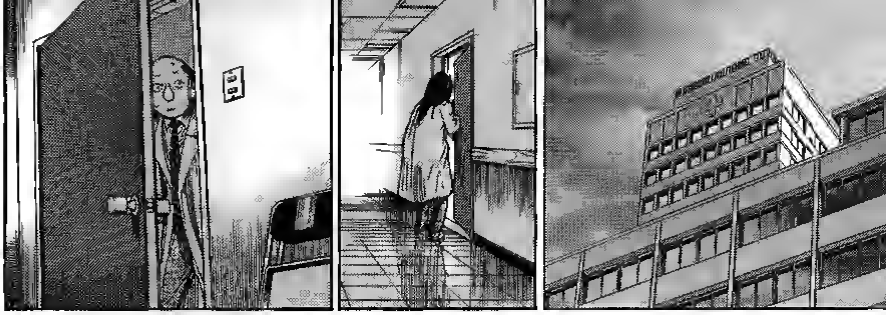
AND MESS-ING UP
THIS MAN'S NATURAL DISPOSI-TION,
I WONDER WHY,
IS PUSHING ME

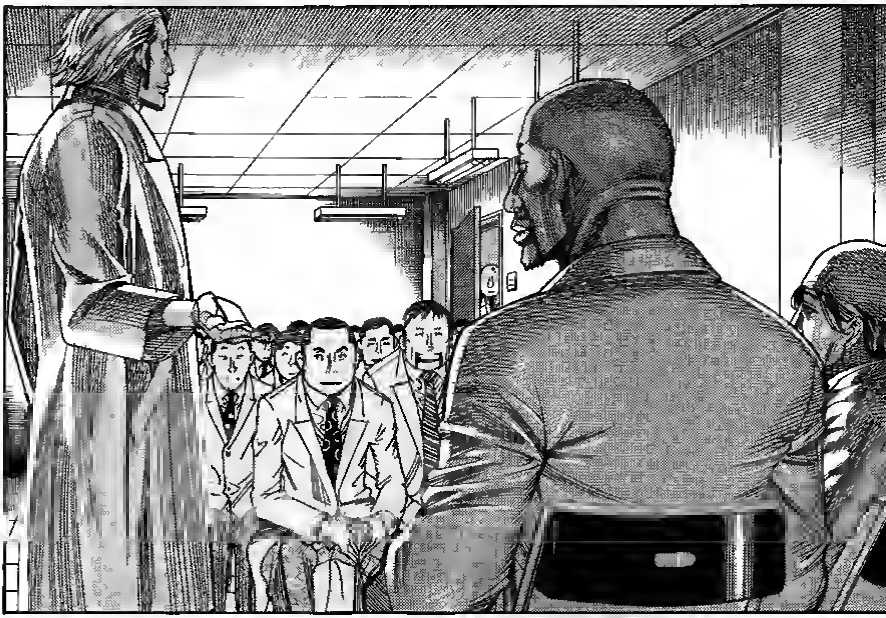
12

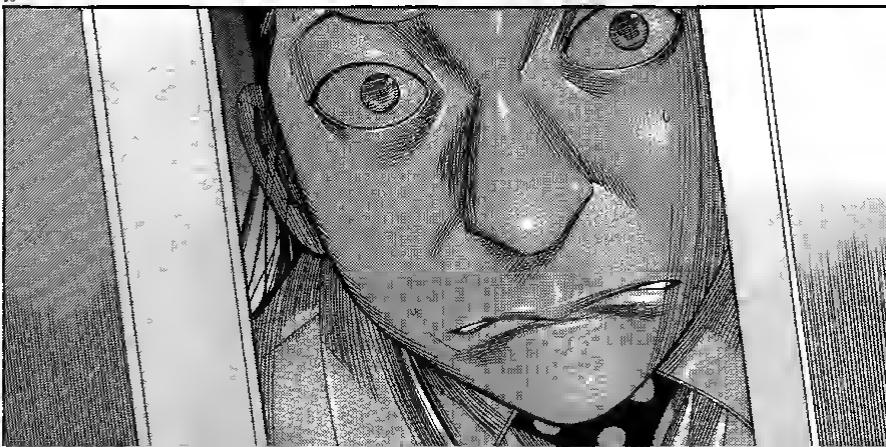
The council for quality health care never made the details of their investigations public.
A 100 point system, which you are proposing,
and making the results public,
Will be great for the patients.
Kuku-kuku.
...
That's right.
Kuku-kuku.
Fufu-fufu.
I'm

OUTERWORLD SCANS

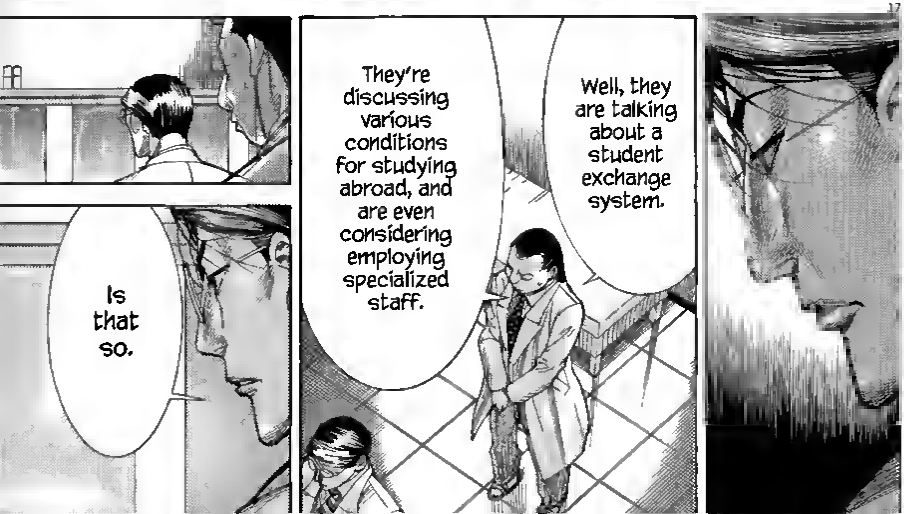

I WILL
UNTIL THE TIME COMES FOR ME TO REGAIN MY POWER,
JUST FOR NOW,
AND DANCE.
PUT ON A PLAY,







Those two hot-shots he brought in
won't be staying here at Meishin.
...That's a given.
If such talented people were to stay, the people in Kunitachi's faction would panic in fear of losing their place.


Well, they are talking about a student exchange system.
They're discussing various conditions for studying abroad, and are even considering employing specialized staff.
Is that so.

OUTERWORLD SCANS

IF THIS GOES ON
THINGS WILL GET REALLY BAD FOR HIM.
IF HE AT LEAST GOT THE LEAD ON NOGUCHI-SENSEI'S SURGERY,
THE FLOW MIGHT TURN INTO HIS FAVOR...

US AVERAGE PEOPLE,
ARE NO HELP TO HIM...!!
AS LONG AS IT WOULD HELP HIM WIN,
I WOULDN'T CARE IF HE ALSO BROUGHT TALENTED PEOPLE, LIKE KUNITACHI-SENSEI.
BUT IF HE DID THAT,

THEN HIS "MEDICAL CARE BY AVERAGE PEOPLE FOR AVERAGE PEOPLE" BELIEF
WOULD GET CRUSHED AND HE WOULD LOSE POLITIC-ALLY.
JUST WHAT
WILL YOU DO! KIRISHIMA-SENSEI!!

tk
tk
Come
in
CLICK
20
OUTERWORLD SCANS

Kihara-sensei,
I will now explain my treatment plan for Noguchi-sensei.
I'll help you with that.
Please do.
This is the person I called,
the best staff.

WHY ARE
FUJI-YOSHI-SESNEI
AND KIRISHIMA-SENSEI-!?

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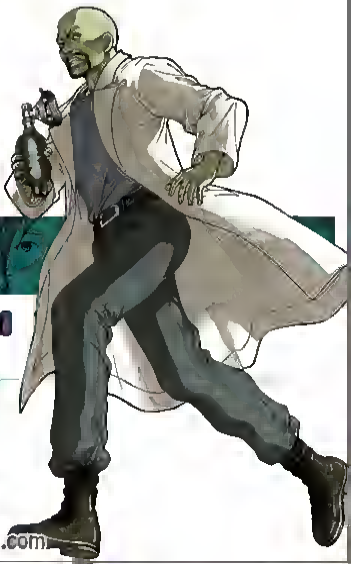


156
Ambitions and Life

FUTENWORLD SCANS

Now then,
I shall explain my treatment plan.
Shouldn't you consult with Kunitachi-kun and Katou-chan first?
Because
I value your surgical skills the least... out of you three,
No need to worry.

Since I don't
plan on performing a surgery.

What do you mean?
I'll put focus on internal medicine.
I plan on using medicine to slow down the progress of the disease.
And we have the person best suited for that right here at Meishin.
From the cardio-ovascular medicine division:

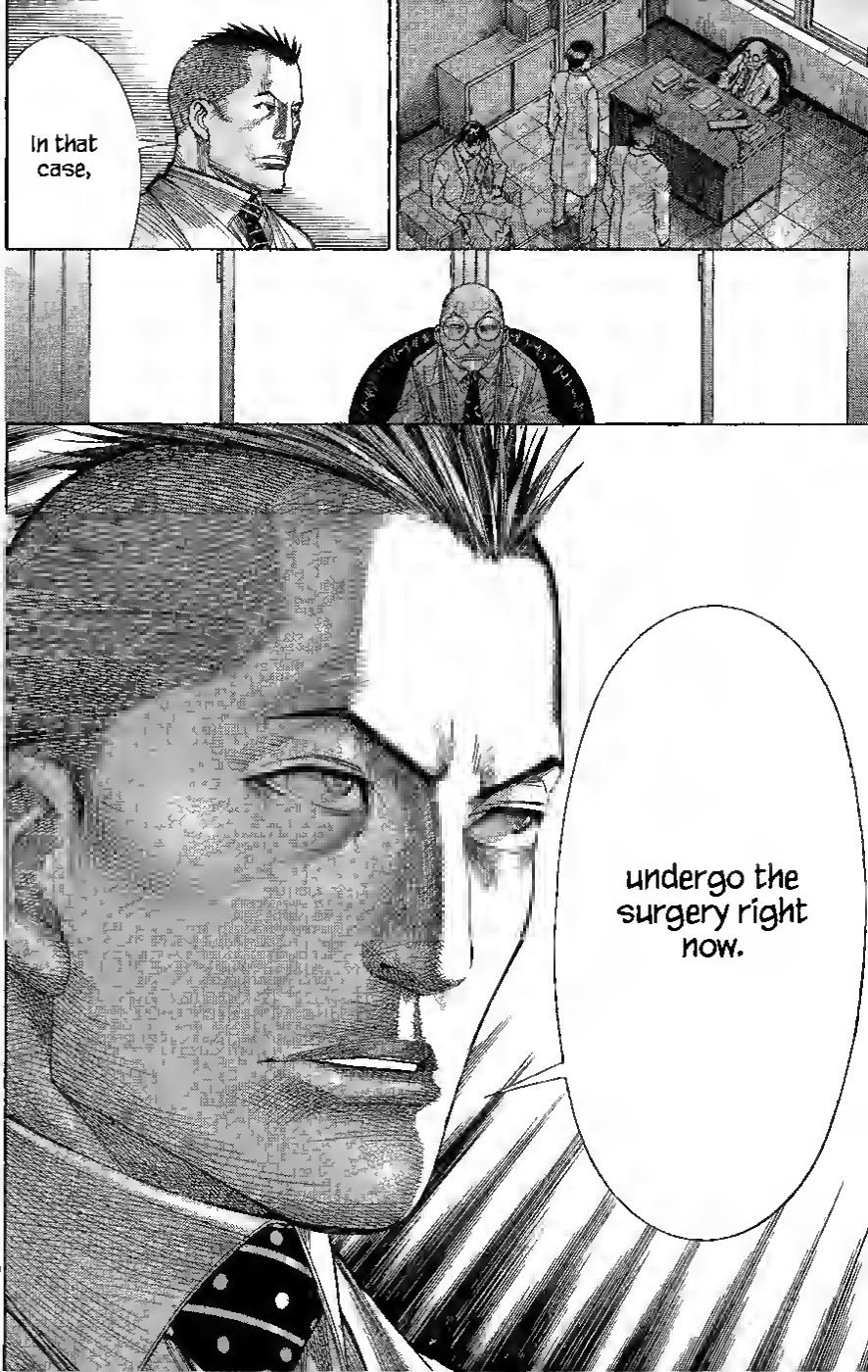
Fujiyoshi
-sensei.
Kuh.
....

Kuku-kukuku.
You won't use him for post-op treatment,
but as a central figure in your plan.
So this is what you came up with when you realized you can't beat the other two candidates at surgery?
Haha-haha!!
Haha-hahaha!
That's pretty smart!!
In that case your inferior skills don't even matter, kukukukuku.
It's just like you, not to overexert yourself!
The best.
And?

CUTEMANGA SCANS

What will become
of my life?
You pass as a candidate,
but as a doctor-
You might be fine with it,
but all I'll be doing is waiting for the illness to progress, right?

you're the worst.
I never thought you'd choose to side with such a man, Fujiyoshi-sensei.
I mis-judged you.



FUTERWORLD SCANS

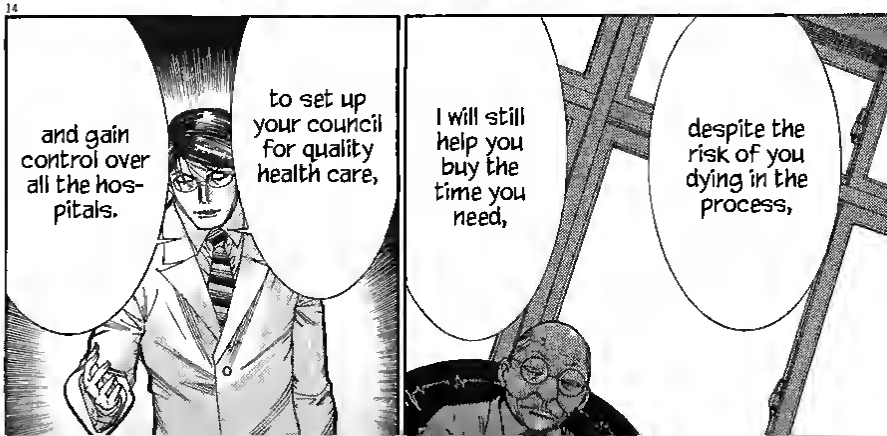
Correct me if this is wrong.
I personally think that you need the surgery.
But,
Kirishima-sensei told me,
that you don't want it.

To immediately receive funds from the state
and fulfil all the conditions for setting up your own council for quality health care,
then have the surgery immediately after that,
would be the best scenario for you.
However,

How-
ever,
you
need the
surgery
right now.
It may
take up
to 1 or 2
years.
Who knows how
long it will take
for the state to
make a decision.
Kunitachi
and Katou
won't wait
for that,
That's why
you want to
push back
the surgery
as far as
possible,
but
That
would
mean an
end to your
political
career.
But deciding to
have the surgery
done, would be the
same as letting
everyone know your
health is in poor
condition.

since the longer you wait, the greater the chance of the surgery failing.

How-ever,

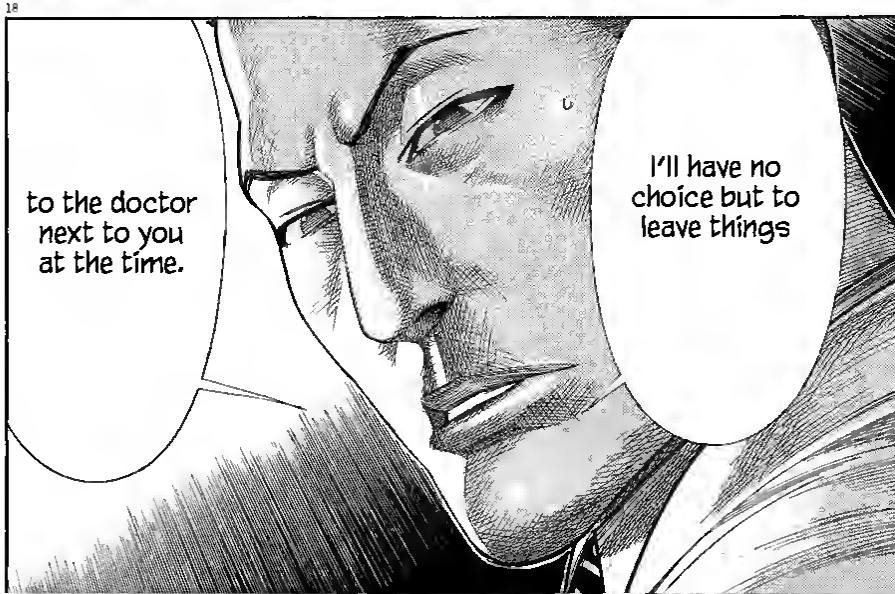

and gain control over all the hos-pitals.
to set up your council for quality health care,
I will still help you buy the time you need,
despite the risk of you dying in the process,

Is also one of the doctor's duties.
To create such a choice for a power-driven maniac like you,
Not to save your life,

But to save your ambitions.

If
your work is more important to you than your health,
and you wish to continue working during the treatment,
Think of this pro-posal
as a form of 'quality of life'.
Of course, only if that's what you wish for.
I will still do my best to support you.
However, should the situation worsen,
and you get a fit,

OUTERWORLD SCANS


I'll have no choice but to leave things
to the doctor next to you at the time.

I'm counting on you.

No need to say it out loud,
I'll keep following him around either way.

That

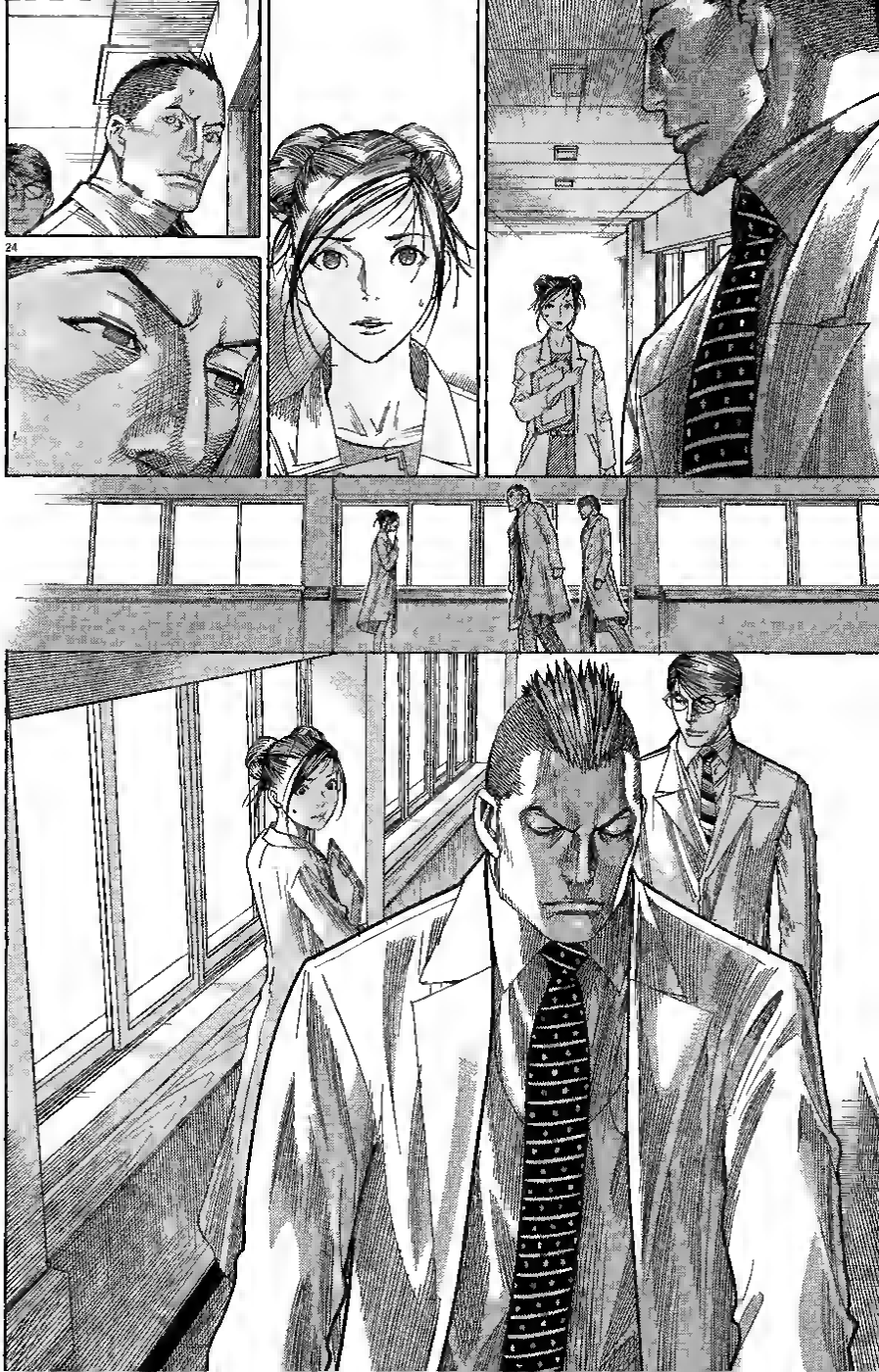
was a pretty good presentation.
You even considered my sense of values,
not bad.
As a patient,
I felt your power of persua-sion.

OUTERWORLD SCANS

about the plans for the council for quality health care.
Don't tell Katou-sensei anything
You know about the doctor-patient confidence...

If word of it gets out, it will affect his social life.
She's Noguchi-sensei's political opponent.

I get it.
PROFESSOR'S OFFICE
It will affect your patient's 'quality of life'.



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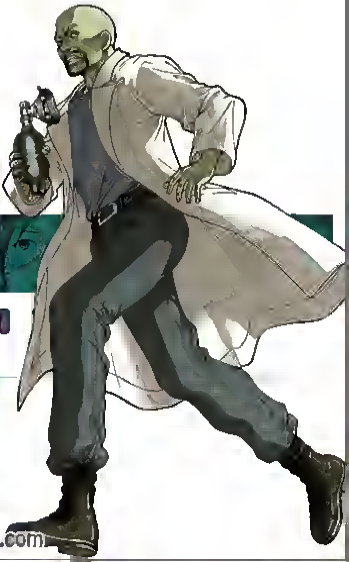


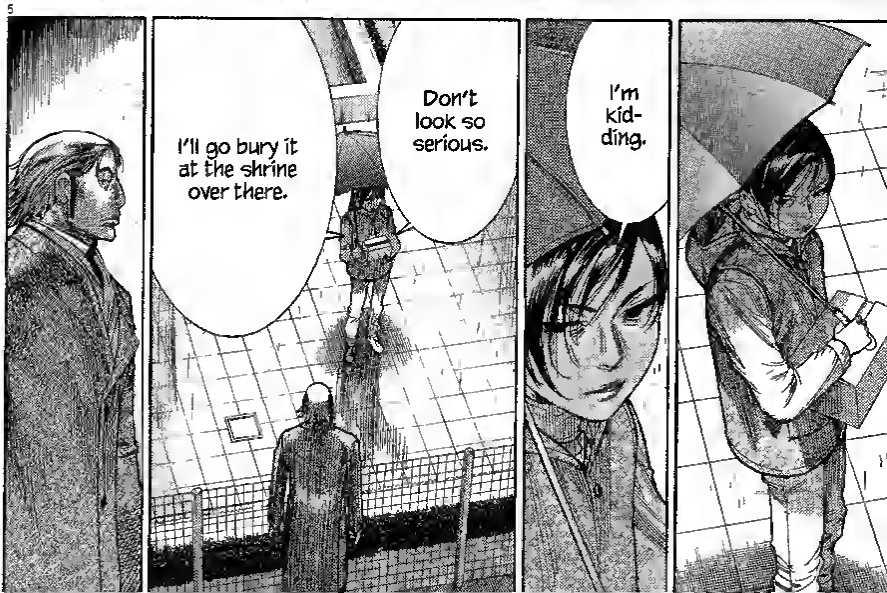
Chapter 157
Splendid Medical Care

OUTERWORLD SCANS

3

They keep selling weak ferrets. This is the second one.
Someone should sue that petshop.
Makki.
It died.
But he looked fine this morning, right?
I dunno.
It was dead when I got back from school.

I killed it.


I'll go bury it at the shrine over there.
Don't look so serious.
I'm kidding.

and when spring comes, your mother will be done with her work and join us.
The election will be over soon,
Do you want to macerate and mount the skeleton?
That doesn't bother me.
You won't feel that lonely...
Then we'll be able to spend more time together...

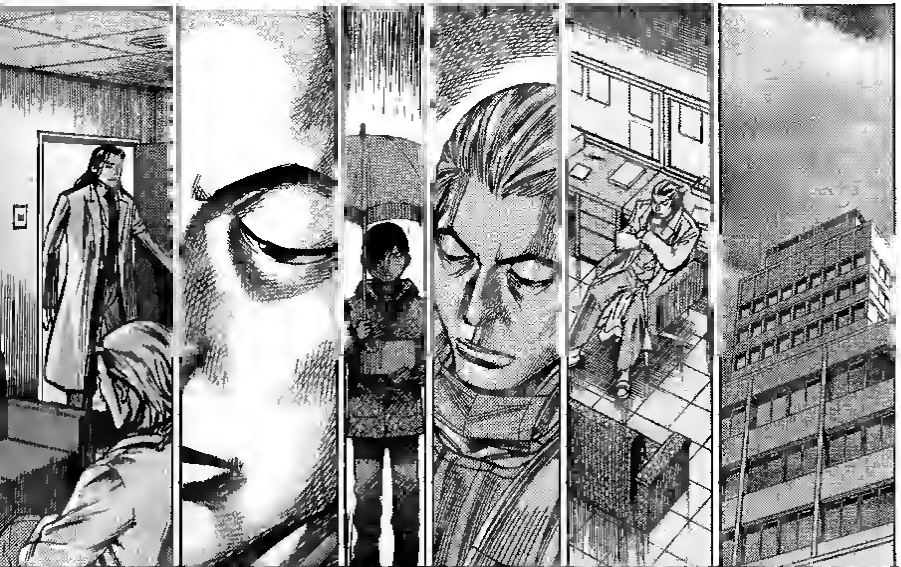
I'll be back soon.
Don't worry.

Give me the box.
You don't know what kind of diseases it carries.
I'll look for the cause of death at the hospital.
Macerating it will reveal the cause of death.
Ok?

OUTERWORLD SCANS

Are you checking whether its neck is broken?

I'm just saying my goodbyes.
No,



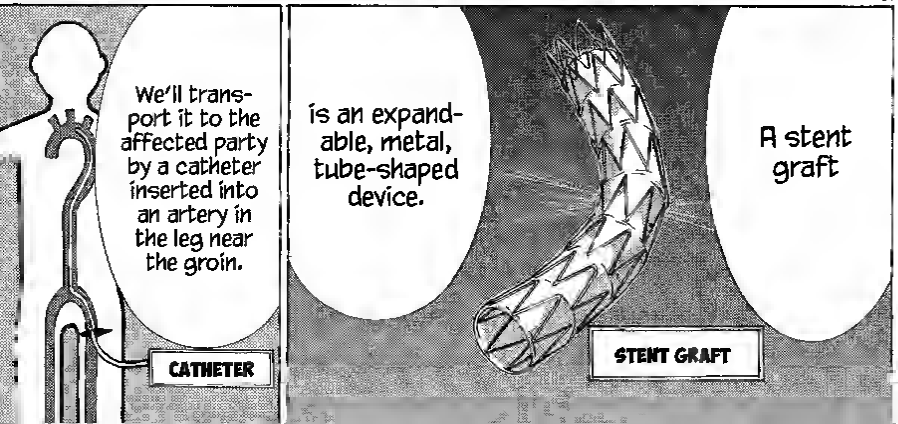
Even we planned on using him for our post-op treatment...
Fujiyoshi is a well renowned physician even abroad.
Yeah.
It seems
Kirishima decided to use Fujiyoshi as his main actor and turned his focus to internal medicine when proposing his treatment plan to Noguchi.
Kukuku, we've been had.
To think a surgeon would turn to Internal Medicine...

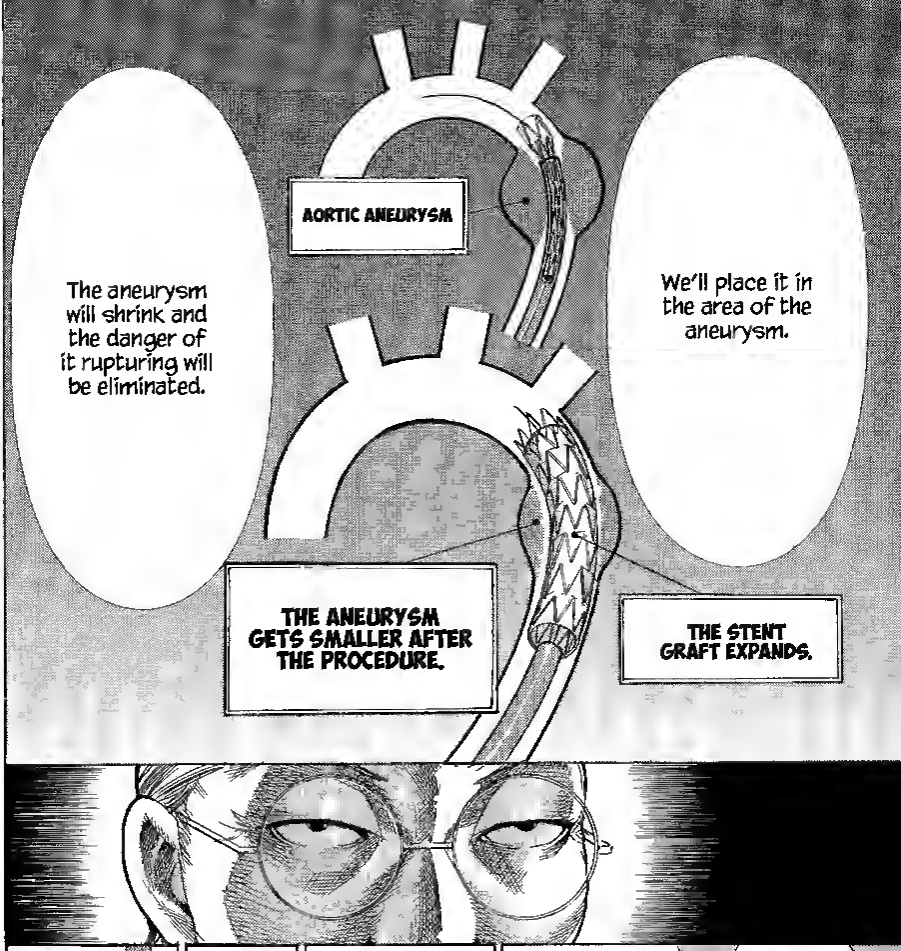
We might not be able to take any of his followers.
No wonder all mediocre people in his clique stick to him.
He's quite persistent.

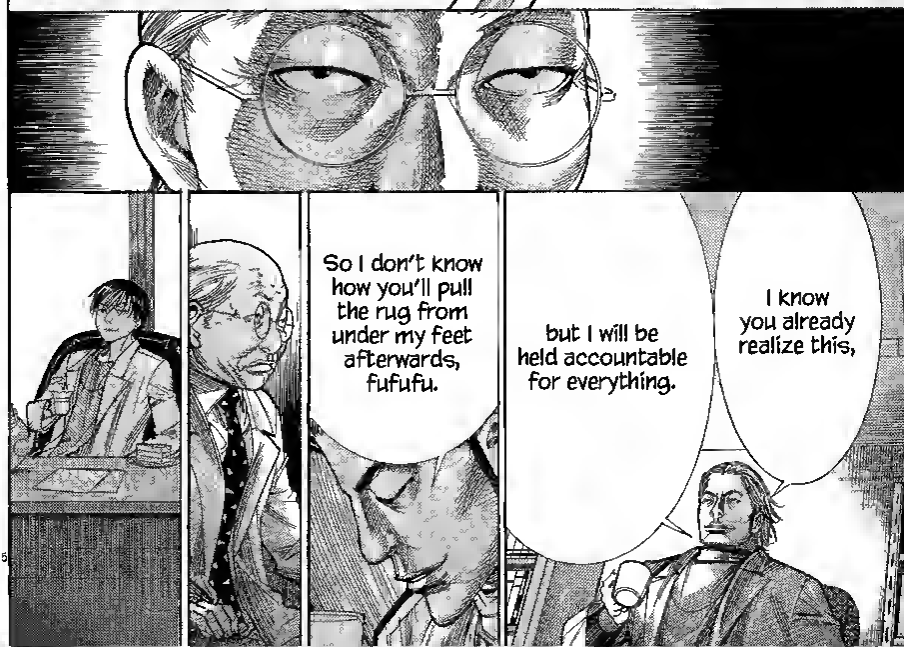
Katou must feel betrayed.
Fufu-fufu.
But no matter what happens,
the one to perform the surgery will be me.

PROFESSOR'S OFFICE
A stent graft interpolation...?

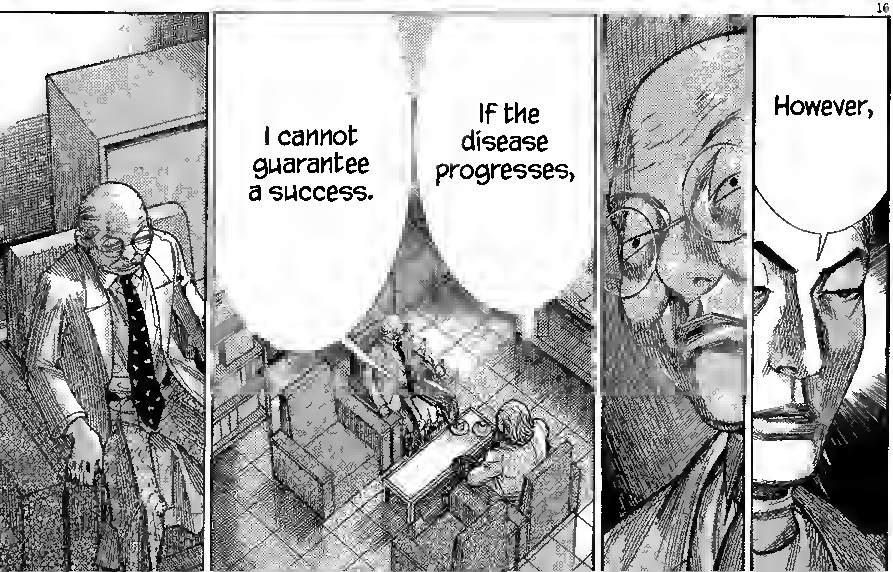
That's right


We'll transport it to the affected party by a catheter inserted into an artery in the leg near the groin.
CATHETER
is an expandable, metal, tube-shaped device.
A stent graft
STENT GRAFT


AORTIC ANEURYSM
The aneurysm will shrink and the danger of it rupturing will be eliminated.
We'll place it in the area of the aneurysm.
THE ANEURYSM GETS SMALLER AFTER THE PROCEDURE.
THE STENT GRAFT EXPANDS.


So I don't know how you'll pull the rug from under my feet afterwards, fufufu.
but I will be held accountable for everything.
I know you already realize this,

Typical American, you mention aortic aneurysm and they go with stent grafts.
It's not that widely spread in Japan though.
You don't have to open the chest,
and the recovery time is short, so the patients can soon return to their normal lives.
I don't know what you're planning,
but it's a plan that won't have much influence on your political life.


However,
If the disease progresses,
I cannot guarantee a success.

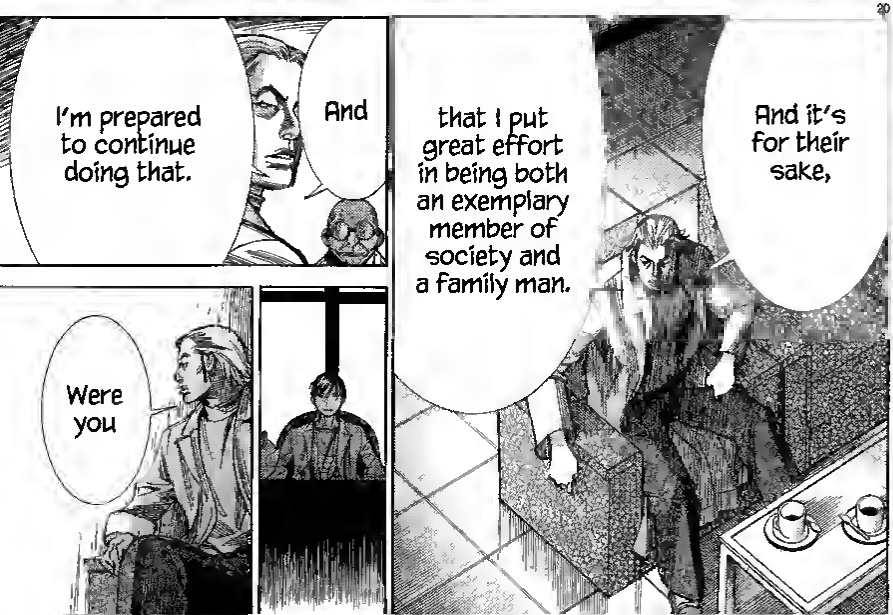
I want to perform the surgery within a week.

OUTERWORLD SCANS

That's my only condition.
I don't think you should waver.
Kuku ku.
You too, don't understand a person's heart.
Kunitachi -sensei,

You see, at Meishin
no one would use a stent to treat an aneurysm this bad,
since the blood vessel might tear.
Besides, even though we know of your reputation,
we never saw you perform the actual surgery.
even so,
don't you think it would be better if I did it?
Your team is the best,
So it's only normal to hesitate.

Asada,
do you have a wife and kids?
I have a wife and a son.
...No.

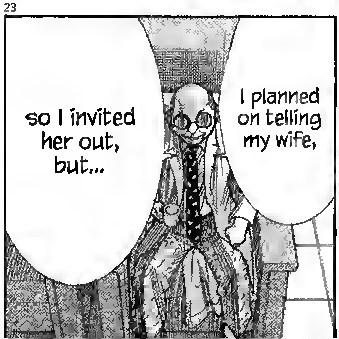

And it's for their sake,
that I put great effort in being both an exemplary member of society and a family man.
And
I'm prepared to continue doing that.
Were you

ever responsible for someone else's life?
It's a heavy responsi-bility
and a lot to bear.

Have you ever thought of life as precious?

I believe that, to a vagabond like you,
a person's life
is something like a beautiful, cold jewel.
Your admire it,
but it's not something you can protect and raise.

You can't hold a candle
to my resolve; to watch over life.


so I invited her out, but...
I planned on telling my wife,

spoken to my family about this yet.
I haven't

...actually,

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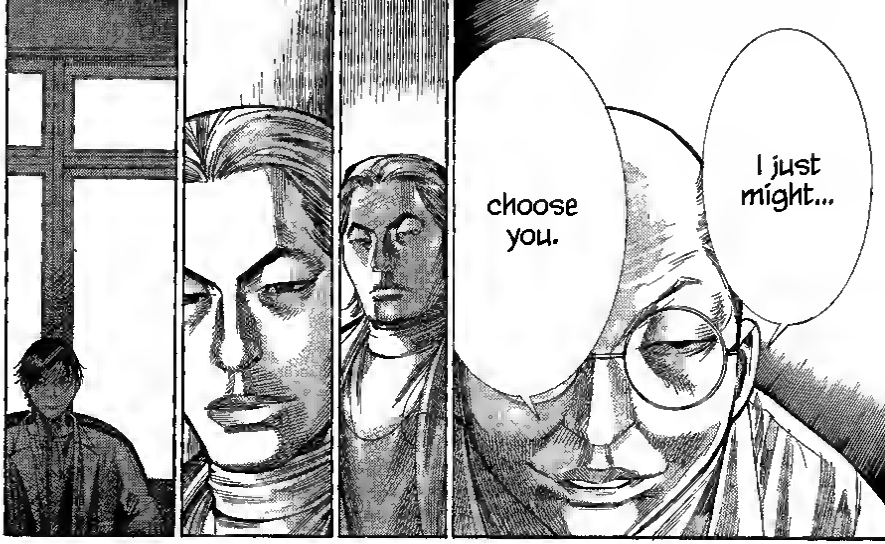
I just might...
choose you.

I'll consider your proposal,
together with Kirishima's.

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